

I N D E X

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D I G E S T O F E V I D E N C E

TO THE

R E P O R T

ON

Museums of the Science and Art Department.

Session 1898.

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INDEX.

ANALYSIS OF INDEX.

LIST of the PRINCIPAL HEADINGS in the following INDEX, with the pages at which they may be found.

PAGE		PAGE
1	<i>DUBLIN MUSEUM</i> —continued.	
	5. <i>Degree of Usefulness of the Museum: Suggestions for its Improvement and Development in several directions</i>	15
	6. <i>Expenditure; inadequacy of the Public Grant for the Museum and National Library</i>	16
	7. <i>Conclusions of the Committee</i>	16
	<i>Edinburgh Museum</i>	17
	<i>Expenditure</i>	17
	<i>Ireland</i>	21
	<i>JERMYN-STREET MUSEUM</i>	21
	<i>Laboratories</i>	23
	<i>Lectures</i>	23
	<i>Libraries</i>	24
	<i>LOANS AND SYSTEM OF CIRCULATION</i> :	
	1. <i>Official Explanations and Suggestions on various points</i>	24
	2. <i>Exhibition Cases, and Custody of Objects on Loan: Question of their greater Accessibility</i>	25
	3. <i>Conclusions and Recommendations of the Committee</i>	25
	<i>PURCHASES (SOUTH KENSINGTON)</i> :	
	1. <i>Official Representations on several points</i>	29
	2. <i>Conclusions and Recommendations of the Committee</i>	30
	<i>SCIENCE MUSEUM, &c.</i>	32
	<i>STAFF (SOUTH KENSINGTON)</i> :	
	1. <i>Official Explanations on several points</i>	35
	2. <i>Conclusions and Recommendations of the Committee</i>	35
	<i>Wales</i>	38
	<i>Weale, H. J. W.</i>	39
1	<i>ABERYSTWITH COLLEGE</i>	
1	<i>Accounts and Estimates</i>	
2	<i>ADMINISTRATION</i>	
3	<i>ART (ART MUSEUM, &c.)</i>	
	<i>BETHNAL GREEN MUSEUM</i> :	
4	1. <i>Administration: Question of a Local Advisory Committee</i>	
4	2. <i>Expenditure</i>	
4	3. <i>Suggestions respecting the provision of a Library and a School of Science and Art; contention that this was originally intended</i>	
5	4. <i>Representations as to the limited usefulness of the Museum, and as to the Developments and Improvements required in the interests of the East End</i>	
6	5. <i>Conclusions and Recommendations of the Committee</i>	
6	<i>BIRMINGHAM MUSEUM</i>	
	<i>BUILDINGS (SOUTH KENSINGTON)</i> :	
7	1. <i>Explanations by Sir John Donnelly on various points</i>	
8	2. <i>Representations as to the Claims, in the Interest of Science, to ample building accommodation on the west side of Exhibition-road</i>	
9	3. <i>Memorials from Fellows of the Royal Society, and from Members of the Royal Academy</i>	
9	4. <i>Particulars of Floor Space, with Plans of Buildings, &c.</i>	
9	5. <i>Conclusions and Recommendations of the Committee</i>	
10	<i>CATALOGUES</i>	
	<i>DUBLIN MUSEUM</i> :	
15	1. <i>Administration and Management</i>	
15	2. <i>Building Accommodation</i>	
15	3. <i>Visitors; Hours of Admission</i>	
15	4. <i>Question of Sunday Opening</i>	

I N D E X.

[*N.B.*—In this Index the Figures following the Names of the Witnesses, and those in the Digest of Evidence of each Witness, refer to the Questions in the Evidence; the Figures following *App.* refer to the Pages in the Appendix; and the Numerals following *First Rep.* and *Second Rep.* to the Pages in the First and Second Reports, respectively, and in the Proceedings of the Committee.]

A.

ABERYSTWYTH COLLEGE. Explanations in detail as to the great need of several additions to Aberystwyth College with a view to its greater educational usefulness, more especially in the training of the students for secondary and elementary teacherships, *Roberts* 2870 *et seq.*—Important work already being done by the college in the form of agricultural extension lectures, and in various other directions, witness representing the want of several additions to the College Museum, so that the best teaching appliances may be available, *ib.* 2873 *et seq.* 2892, 2893.

Difficulty on the score of funds in obtaining the required objects for the College Museum; valuable contributions of fine art and other collections from private sources, aid from Government in this direction being much needed, *Roberts* 2876–2879. 2925–2933—Undue stringency of the present regulations of the Science and Art Department as to loans of objects and exhibits to the museum; doubt as to loans having been made to other Welsh towns, *ib.* 2882, 2883. 2894–2913.

Large number of students at the college, the total having increased from 157 to 407 in the last seven years, *Roberts* 2884–2886. 2934—Estimate of from 8,000*l.* to 9,000*l.* as the total income of the college, *ib.* 2925–2933.

Aberystwyth School of Art. Degree of connection between the School of Art at Aberystwyth and the college; belief that the former has had the advantage of loans from South Kensington, *Roberts* 2919–2924.

Accounts and Estimates. Explanations in connection with the appropriation account and the form of the estimates showing the supervision exercised, respectively, by the Comptroller and Auditor General and by the Treasury, *Sir J. Donnelly* 238–274. 476–481—Reasons submitted in disapproval of alterations in the form of the estimates and of the appropriation account, these being settled by the Treasury, whilst the accounts of the Department are subject to the review of the Comptroller and Auditor General, *ib.* 454*–458—Comment upon the mode of inquiry by some members of the Select Committee respecting the accounts, as misleading the public in regard to the administration of the Department, *ib.* 458.

Explanation with further reference to the accounts and the practice as to re-casting, this having had nothing to do with some defalcations in the time of Sir H. Cole, *Sir J. Donnelly* 735—Custody of the old books and accounts in the Department, the vouchers at the Audit Office being destroyed every seven years, *ib.* 735.

Explanatory statement on the part of the Treasury as to the functions of that Department and of the Comptroller and Auditor General respecting the form of the accounts and of the votes of the Science and Art Department, with special reference to the monies voted for Bethnal Green Museum and the check exercised by the Treasury in the matter, *Spring-Rice* 2256 *et seq.*

Settlement by the Treasury of the form of the accounts, no irregularities having been reported, *Second Rep.* xiii.

Arrangements in 1884 under which the accounts for South Kensington and Bethnal Green have not been kept separate since that year, *Second Rep.* xiii.

Review by the Committee of the system as regards the museum estimates; several defects of the present arrangement, especially as regards the H votes, where there is great confusion, *Second Rep.* xix, xx—Contrast with the British Museum estimates, which are presented in an excellent form, *ib.* xx.

Accounts and Estimates—continued.

Conclusion as to the urgent need for reforming the manner in which the estimates are presented and are audited by the Comptroller and Auditor General, *Second Rep. xx.*

See also Expenditure. Furniture. Purchases.

ADMINISTRATION:

Non-adoption up to the present time of any proposal for a change of administration in view of the retirement of Mr. Armstrong, *Sir J. Donnelly*, 573—577.

Examination upon the subject of board meetings, witness finding it difficult to give a precise definition of what constitutes a board, though the Vice-President frequently attends and meets the various officers of the Department Boards held when Lord Spencer was President of the Council, *Sir J. Donnelly* 717—734.

Conclusion that the removal of the new Science and Art Department from South Kensington would not injure the work of the museum, *Sparkes* 1480—1482.

Explanation and strong approval of the system of separation of duties under several divisional officers, *Skinner* 1562—1571, 1618—1625, 1659—1670.

Memorandum, dated November 1886, explanatory of the rules and regulations under which the staff at South Kensington works, *App. 206—209*—Arrangements as to “Board” meetings and the business to be transacted, *ib. 208*.

Memorandum by Sir John Donnelly, dated 8th March 1897, on the relations of the Bethnal Green Museum, the museum in Jermyn Street, and the museums in Edinburgh and Dublin to the Science and Art Department and the South Kensington Museum, *App. 206*.

Review by the Committee of the arrangements for the administration of the several museums, showing the functions of the different members of the staff, *Second Rep. vii—x*—Increased cost of administration by reason of the buildings being so scattered, *ib. vii—x*.

Conclusion that a reform of the system of board meetings is imperative; discontinuance of these meetings during the last three years, *Second Rep. xxxiii, xxxiv*.

Steps taken from time to time to give greater efficiency to, and increased public confidence in, the administration of South Kensington, *Second Rep. xxxiv*.

Strong recommendation by the Committee that a board of visitors be appointed for South Kensington; suggestions as to their constitution and functions, *Second Rep. xxxiv*—Recommendation that the board of visitors in the case of the Science Museum should be strengthened, and that their meetings should be held more readily, *ib. xxvii*.

Reference to the acute controversy between persons in official positions as having been an injury to the public service, and as having brought discredit on the administration, *Second Rep. xxxvi*.—Hope expressed by the Committee that all members of the staff will henceforth cordially co-operate, and endeavour to promote in the most effective manner the usefulness of the museum, *ib.*

Intention that the proposed advisers or visitors should not lessen the responsibility of the Parliamentary chiefs, *Second Rep. xxxvi*—Expediency of a wide discretion as to the duties of the staff being vested in the Parliamentary heads and those immediately responsible to them, *ib.*

Further recommendation by the Committee that one at least of the Parliamentary heads should visit the museum weekly, or more frequently, and confer with such members of the staff as the state of current business renders it desirable that he should consult, *Second Rep. xxxvi*.

See also Accounts and Estimates. Bethnal Green Museum. Buildings. Catalogues. Dublin Museum. Education Minister. Jermyn Street Museum. Loans, and System of Circulation. Purchases. Science Museum. Staff. Works Department.

Armstrong, Thomas, C.B. (Digest of his Evidence).—Reply to the attack made by Sir Charles Robinson upon the purchase of the Molinari gateway by witness on behalf of the Department; grounds for justifying this purchase, which was sanctioned by Lord Carlingford, then Lord President, 59, 60—Entire approval of restorations or new work being distinguished, by means of some mark, from the original parts, 61—65.

Armstrong, Mr., C.B. (Retention of Office).—Extension in October last of the service of Mr. Armstrong beyond the age of 65; grounds for justifying his continued retention of office, *Sir J. Donnelly* 377—381, 394—410.

Further statement respecting the extension allowed in Mr. Armstrong's case and the terms and conditions thereof; conclusion that the conditions were made known to him, *Sir J. Donnelly* 592—595, 620—630.

Correspondence in August and September 1897 respecting the retention of the services of Mr. Armstrong after a certain date; approval by the Treasury of such retention up to 19th October 1898, *App. 219, 220*. ART

ART (ART MUSEUM, &c.):

Explanations on the subject of art and fine art and science, respectively, *Sir N. Lockyer* 1157—Mission of the Royal College of Art with reference to industrial art as distinct from fine art; twofold purposes had in view in obtaining works of art from the museum, there being two different classes of students, *Sparkes* 1413–1415.

Explanation of the process necessary in order to obtain the required objects from the museum for study in the Art School; important modifications of the old process in 1891 and 1894, all objects in circulation being now received very promptly after requisition has been made for them, *Sparkes* 1416–1425—Importance attached to the circulation of objects intrinsically valuable, though, as regards the Art School at South Kensington, this is not essential, as the students are close to the museum, *ib.* 1425*–1435.

Consideration of the facilities available and the steps taken as regards the arrangement of the objects in the museum; suggestions as to the size and number of rooms required, not only for exhibition purposes, but for convenience of the public, *Skinner* 1578–1591. 1597, 1598—Approval of an amalgamation between the Eastern art and the Western art, instead of there being two separate galleries, *ib.* 1599–1602—Explanation as to the functions exercised by witness and Mr. Clarke, respectively, and by the division heads, *ib.* 1618–1625. 1659–1670.

Unanimous recommendation by the Committee in favour of the concentration of art on the east side of Exhibition-road, *First Rep.* iii.

Review by the Committee of the general administration of the Art Museum and Art Library; objections thereto on several points, *Second Rep.* xx–xxvi.

Considerations as to the staff employed in the administration of the Art Museum; inexpediency of their being transferred from one branch to another, *Second Rep.* xx, xxi.

See also Buildings. Catalogues. Libraries. Loans, &c. Purchases. Referees. Schools of Art.

Astronomical Apparatus (South Kensington Museum). Danger of vibration from the road as regards astronomical apparatus, *Sir N. Lockyer* 1190–1193.

Attendants (South Kensington Museum). Suggestion by the Committee that the attendants in the galleries might, with advantage, wear a distinctive uniform, *Second Rep.* xxix.

B.

Balcarres, Lord (Member of the Committee). Draft Report proposed by Lord Balcarres, but not adopted by the Committee, *Second Rep.* lvi–lxxiv.

Bangor College and Museum. Several reasons submitted in support of the conclusion that it is most important that a museum is attached to the college at Bangor; suggestions as to the required extension of the museum collection in different directions, *Dobbie* 2939–2952—Very substantial character of the present museum, the number of specimens in the botanical, geological, and other collections being not less than 10,000, *ib.* 2940, 2941.

Hardship in Bangor being precluded by existing regulations from obtaining grants of money or loans of objects from South Kensington; instance of difficulty in obtaining a modification of the rules, *Dobbie* 2941, 2942. 2959–2967—Insufficient funds of Bangor College for the required extension of the museum buildings, and the further acquisition and arrangement of specimens; total income of about 10,000*l.*, *ib.* 2941. 2968, 2969—Claim to a Government subsidy in aid of the museum; great educational benefits thereby, *ib.* 2941–2949.

Bartlett, James. (Digest of his Evidence)—Lengthened residence of witness in Bethnal Green, dating back to a period before the inception of the museum, 3091–3093.

Original intention that the museum should be fitted up as a teaching institution, with a library attached; great disappointment locally that these wants have never been supplied, 3094–3115—Very little real use of the museum in an educational sense, though some of the exhibits have been very good, 3101–3106—Special want of a system of lectures and of a library; great improvement if the free library in London-street were placed in juxtaposition to the museum, 3107–3115.

BETHNAL GREEN MUSEUM:

1. Administration; Question of a Local Advisory Committee.

2. Expenditure.

3. Suggestions respecting the provision of a Library and a School of Science and Art; contention that this was originally intended.

4. Representations as to the limited usefulness of the Museum and as to the Developments and Improvements required in the interests of the East End.

5. Conclusions and Recommendations of the Committee.

1. Administration; Question of a Local Advisory Committee:

Approval of a local advisory committee with a view to a better selection of useful objects for the museum, *Lobb* 2467-2470.

Comment upon the omission to make art publicly known in the district when new collections are being exhibited; want of some system of advertising them, *Blow* 2529-2534. 2541—Doubt as to the museum authorities taking any steps to ascertain the popular taste or the special wants of the district; advantage on this point if there were a local advisory committee, *ib.* 2535-2541. 2628-2632.

Grounds for statement that the authorities have made no special effort to make the museum available for the elder children in the schools, *Blow* 2564-2570—Improvement if guides of a superior class were employed to go round with scholars and to explain the objects, *ib.* 2571-2573. 2604, 2605.

Importance of freely advertising the exhibitions and the special lectures in connection therewith, *Bishop of Stepney* 2734-2743—Advantage if there were a local advisory committee for putting forward the wants of the district and for making suggestions on the subject, *ib.* 2745-2754. 2816, 2817, 2829.

Unfairness in expecting Government still to provide the funds if the museum were placed under local administration, *Bishop of Stepney* 2816, 2817. 2827-2830—Explanation as to the locality looking to Government to initiate changes in the exhibits and to provide popular lectures, instead of taking any initiative in the matter themselves, *ib.* 2834-2847.

Suggestions on the subject of administration by a local representative committee; opinion that with the present grant of 4,000*l.* a year much more might be accomplished under local management, *Nokes* 3056-3068.

Letter from the Bishop of Stepney, dated 21st May 1898, testifying to the excellent results from Mr. Parkinson's management, and advocating the development of the museum on these lines, *App.* 229.

2. Expenditure:

Explanations respecting the annual expenditure upon furniture, materials, &c. at Bethnal Green Museum, the amount for ten years being 6,680*l.*, inclusive of cases and fittings; expenditure also of from 400*l.* to 500*l.* a year by the Office of Works on maintenance and repairs, *Sir J. Donnelly* 275-298.

Information respecting the estimates of expenditure as compared with the actual expenditure; difficulty in showing separately the precise amount of each item, *Festing* 917-930.

Question considered as to the Treasury keeping a check upon the separate expenditure under each of the headings in Sub-Head H., as regards Bethnal Green Museum; degree of complication involved, witness approving of some discretion in the Treasury as to transfer from one sub-division to another, *Spring-Rice* 2265 *et seq.*

Inability of witness to comprehend how the money has been spent, if in the last ten years so much as 6,800*l.* has been voted for furniture, &c., *Lobb* 2431-2442—Special claim upon the Exchequer to provide the funds required, in order to carry out the original intention of the museum, instead of expecting the London County Council to maintain it out of the Whisky Fund or any other funds at their disposal, *Blow* 2574-2586.

Claim upon the Exchequer for an increase of funds for popular lectures, *Bishop of Stepney* 2718-2720—Examination upon the question whether the district should not contribute in money towards the greater usefulness of the museum instead of expecting a large Government grant; reference hereon to the very high rates in the district and to its exceptionally poor character, *ib.* 2774-2790. 2804-2809. 2811-2815. 2853-2856.

3. Suggestions respecting the provision of a Library and a School of Science and Art; contention that this was originally intended:

General understanding in Bethnal Green, upon the establishment of the museum, that it was to include a library and a school of science and art, *Lobb* 2328, 2329—Belief that the site was provided by the inhabitants of the East End, *ib.* 2330, 2331.

—Very

Report, 1898—*continued.*

BETHNAL GREEN MUSEUM—continued.

3. *Suggestions respecting the provision of a Library, &c.*—continued.

—Very little utility of the museum in its present form as a source of instruction on account of there being no library and no provision for the teaching of science and art; strong complaint on this score, *Lobb* 2332—2338. 2350. 2367. 2395.

Great boon if there were a library adjacent to the museum, there being a good site available; obstacles to a free library, supported out of the rates, the ratepayers comprising an exceptionally poor population, *Lobb* 2355—2393. 2415—2430. 2461—2466. 2476—2484—General dissatisfaction in the district with the present operation of the museum and the non-fulfilment of the promises at first held out, *ib.* 2413, 2414. 2471—2476.

Belief that it was originally intended that the Bethnal Green Museum should include a library, and should provide instruction in science and art, *Blow* 2515—2517

—Excellent work being done by the free library in Bethnal Green, which is supported by voluntary contributions; suggestions for its transfer to the museum as likely to be of considerable advantage, *ib.* 2548—2554—Very onerous rates in Bethnal Green, whereas a penny rate for the library would produce only 1,670*l.*; *ib.* 2633.

Special claim to the provision of a library and lecture hall and of instruction in certain branches of science and art; undertaking given by the Education Department to this effect before the museum was established, *Nokes* 2646—2653. 2675—2679—Great value attached to the free library; immense advantage if it were removed to a better site and were in close and direct connection with the museum, *ib.* 2680—2705—Difficulty in obtaining a library rate, the rates generally being already very onerous, *ib.* 2689—2691.

Importance of the museum comprising a department of science and art and a library, as intended under the original scheme of the museum, *Bishop of Stepney* 2710—2715. 2721 *et seq.*, 2848—2850—Decided approval of the free library being placed in juxtaposition to the museum; inconvenience of its present site, *ib.* 2721—2728. 2765—2770. 2800—2803. 2824. 2864, 2865—Explanation as to witness having opposed the adoption of the Free Libraries Act in Bethnal Green, *ib.* 2818—2826.

Entire concurrence in the view that Bethnal Green Museum is capable of being made most useful in the district, and that the removal of the free library to the vacant space north of the museum would be a great advantage, *Nokes* 3050—3055. 3077. 3089, 3090—Explanation as to witness having opposed the adoption of the Public Libraries' Act in Bethnal Green, in view of the existing rates being very high, *ib.* 3069—3077—Great want of a lecture hall and library as originally contemplated; inadequacy of a penny library rate to provide what is required in these directions, *ib.* 3080—3088.

Original intention that the museum should be fitted up as a teaching institution; with a library attached; great disappointment locally that those wants have never been supplied, *Bartlett* 3094—3115—Special want of a system of lectures and of a library; great improvement if the free library in London-street were placed in juxtaposition to the museum, *ib.* 3107—3115.

4. *Representations as to the limited usefulness of the Museum and as to the Developments and Improvements required in the interests of the East End:*

Want not only of a good lending library, but of a hall for lectures, and of class rooms for instruction in the various branches of technical knowledge; representations in detail on these points, *Lobb* 2340 *et seq.*—Very scanty results from the exhibitions held in the museums; suggestions for securing a better attendance of the working classes (children, as well as bread-winners), and for special lectures and instruction in boot riveting, furniture manufacture, and other industries of the district, *ib.* 2346—2354. 2404—2412. 2443—2456. 2488—2511—Advantage if classes were provided by the London Technical Education Board, *ib.* 2401—2403.

Further statement as to the attendance of children and workmen and as to the little real interest taken in the museum, many of the objects being quite unsuitable for the district, *Lobb* 2488—2511.

Limited utility of the museum in its present form, the exhibits of boots, cabinet work, &c., not being much appreciated in the absence of lecturers to explain them, *Blow* 2519—2526. 2545—2547. 2604—2609—Decided advantage if large numbers of children visited the museum and were accompanied by oral guides, *ib.* 2527, 2528—Want of some high class teachers in science, with a view to instruction in chemistry, &c., *ib.* 2558—2560. 2584—2586. 2606, 2607. 2615—2617.—Satisfaction generally with the museum buildings except that it has no lecture rooms, *ib.* 2590—2593.

Sufficiency of space if the exhibits were more judiciously selected and were of the right kind for the district; statement hereon as to the South Kensington authorities not having been approached by the locality with a view to a suitable selection of objects

BETHNAL GREEN MUSEUM—continued.4. *Representations as to the limited usefulness, &c.—continued.*

objects for the district, *Blow* 2595–2603, 2628–2632—Different classes for whom Bethnal Green Museum would be an educational boon if the objects exhibited were in touch with the industries of the place and were properly explained by lectures, *ib.* 2615–2617—Several instances of objects of no use to visitors and not bearing upon any of the local industries; approval of these being removed, *ib.* 2622–2627.

General feeling in the district that the museum has no real educational value, there being very little interest taken in it, except as a promenade, *Nokes* 2641–2645, 2654–2658, 2665–2667, 2672, 2673—Suggestions with a view to making the museum attractive to the masses, as by concerts and military music, witness strongly approving also of a system of lectures on industrial art, together with oral guides in constant attendance, *ib.* 2659–2671.

Conclusion as regards the Bethnal Green Museum that it is of very little use at present, and urgently requires being brought in touch with the people and with the needs of the locality; inadequate return for the expenditure incurred, *Bishop of Stepney* 2711, 2715, 2716, 2729–2733, 2772, 2773, 2781, 2832, 2833—Suggestion that the museum might be made more popular in many ways, as by frequent lectures on special subjects and exhibits and by arrangements for the instruction of groups of workmen at appointed times; action of witness in this direction, *ib.* 2716–2720, 2734–2743, 2761–2764, 2772, 2773, 2848–2850—Large attendance of the people of the East End at the museum if lectures on special subjects were given by well known experts, *ib.* 2761–2764—Necessity of changing the present exhibits, *ib.* 2718, 2810—Suggestions on the subject of picture exhibitions being held in the museum, *ib.* 2742–2748, 2797–2799, 2838–2841.

Very little real use of the museum in an educational sense, though some of the exhibits have been very good, *Bartlett* 3101–3106.

5. *Conclusions and Recommendations of the Committee:*

Review by the Committee of the circumstances connected with the formation of the branch museum at Bethnal Green, *Second Rep.* v—Summary of the staff employed, *ib.* viii, ix—Classification of expenditure under different heads in the year 1897–98; total of 6,638*l.*; *ib.* xi.

Review of the circumstances connected with the formation of the museum; comment more especially upon the omission to provide any sort of technical instruction, which was the main object of the inception of the museum, *Second Rep.* xxx, xxxi—Very inferior character of the collection; second-rate and worthless character of many of the objects, *ib.* xxxi.

Concurrence of evidence as to the very little use of the museum to the people of the East End, *Second Rep.* xxxi.—Several advantages anticipated if the free library were in juxtaposition to the museum, *ib.*—Importance of exhibitions suitable to the locality, especially when lectures are given about the exhibits, *ib.*

Recommendation that negotiations be carried on with a view of transferring to some local authority the site and structure of the Bethnal Green Museum, the Dixon Collection of Pictures, and any other objects specially dedicated by donors, *Second Rep.* xxxi, xxxvii—Opinion that meanwhile more changes in the objects exhibited might be made with advantage to the district, *ib.*

Suggestion that further gifts of public money should only be given to meet corresponding contributions from local sources, by way either of rates or of private subscriptions, *Second Rep.* xxxvii.

See also Accounts and Estimates. East End.

BIRMINGHAM MUSEUM:

Exceedingly valuable character of the collections in the Birmingham Museum; reference especially to the large and important collections of industrial and decorative works of art, *Wallis* 1229—Assistance received at the museum from South Kensington, chiefly in the form of a loan collection comprising four cases, the objects being mostly selected by witness, who visits South Kensington for the purpose, *ib.* 1229–1237.

Explanation of the procedure as to purchases for the Birmingham Museum; very large powers vested in witness by the Art Purchase Committee, he having made important purchases at home and abroad without any complaint on the part of the committee of management, *Wallis* 1397, 1398.

Numerous lectures by witness away from the museum; large attendances at some places, *Wallis* 1321–1324—Sale of a very large number of penny catalogues, these being compiled in the museum, and the advertisements in them being under regulation, *ib.* 1325–1330.

Very

Report, 1898—*continued.**BIRMINGHAM MUSEUM*—continued.

Very close connection between the Museum and the local art schools; loan of objects to the latter, whilst witness has lectured for them, *Wallis* 1333–1342. 1355–1362. 1374–1381—Beneficial operation of the Birmingham Museum as regards the local board schools and secondary schools, *ib.* 1352–1354—Art library close to the Birmingham Museum, but not in any way attached to it, *ib.* 1409, 1410.

Memorandum respecting the operation of the Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, and the views of M. Marius Vachon thereon, *App.* 223.

See also Loans, &c.

Blow, Charles Barkworth. (Digest of his Evidence)—Long residence of witness in Bethnal Green; he is teacher of a local board school, and knows the museum pretty well, 2512–2514. 2563.

Belief that it was originally intended that the Bethnal Green Museum should include a library, and should provide instruction in science and art, 2515–2517—Limited utility of the museum in its present form, the exhibits of boots, cabinet work, &c., not being much appreciated in the absence of lecturers to explain them, 2519–2526. 2545–2547. 2604–2609—Decided advantage if large numbers of children visited the museum, and were accompanied by oral guides, 2527, 2528.

Comment upon the omission to make it publicly known in the district when new collections are being exhibited; want of some system of advertising them, 2529–2534. 2541—Doubt as to the museum authorities taking any steps to ascertain the popular taste or the special wants of the district; advantage on this point if there were a local advisory committee, 2535–2541. 2628–2632—Much greater facility in East End residents going to Bethnal Green Museum than to South Kensington, 2542–2544. 2555–2557. 2610–2614.

Excellent work being done by the free library in Bethnal Green, which is supported by voluntary contributions; suggestions for its transfer to the museum as likely to be of considerable advantage, 2548–2554—Want of some high-class teachers on science, with a view to instruction in chemistry, &c., 2558–2560. 2584–2586. 2606, 2607. 2615–2617.

Grounds for statement that the authorities have made no special effort to make the museum available for the elder children in the schools, 2564–2570—Improvement if guides of a superior class were employed to go round with scholars and to explain the objects, 2571–2573. 2604, 2605—Special claim upon the Exchequer to provide the funds required in order to carry out the original intention of the museum, instead of expecting the London County Council to maintain it out of the Whisky Fund or any other funds at their disposal, 2574–2589.

Satisfaction generally with the museum buildings, except that it has no lecture rooms, 2590–2593—Sufficiency of space if the exhibits were more judiciously selected, and were of the right kind for the district; statement hereon as to the South Kensington authorities not having been approached by the locality with a view to a suitable selection of objects for the district, 2595–2603. 2628–2632—Difficulty in the working classes of the East End visiting South Kensington on account of the distance and the time required, and the expense, 2610–2614. 2618–2621.

Different classes for whom Bethnal Green Museum would be an educational boon if the objects exhibited were in touch with the industries of the place, and were properly explained by lecturers, 2615–2617—Several instances of objects of no use to visitors, and not bearing upon any of the local industries; approval of these being removed, 2622–2627—Very onerous rates in Bethnal Green, whereas a penny rate for the library would produce only 1,670*l.*; 2633.

Board Meetings. See *Administrations.*

British Museum. Entire approval of the system at the British Museum of not removing officials from one department to another, *Skinner* 1488, 1489.

BUILDINGS (SOUTH KENSINGTON):

1. *Explanations by Sir John Donnelly on various points.*
2. *Representations as to the Claims, in the interests of Science, to ample building accommodation on the west side of Exhibition-road.*
3. *Memorials from Fellows of the Royal Society, and from Members of the Royal Academy.*
4. *Particulars of Floor Space, with Plans of Buildings, &c.*
5. *Conclusions and Recommendations of the Committee.*

1. Explanations by Sir John Donnelly on various points:

Information in connection with plan to be submitted to the Committee, showing the several buildings as they existed before the recent demolition and the buildings now in existence, *Sir J. Donnelly* 1–3—Use to be made of the temporary tin and wood

BUILDINGS (SOUTH KENSINGTON)—continued.

1. *Explanations by Sir John Donnelly on various points—continued.*
wood buildings which used to be in the quadrangle; belief that they will not be used for exhibition, *Sir J. Donnelly* 183-186.

Examination respecting the proposed removal of portion of the Science Museum to the other side of the Exhibition-road, as well as several other proposed changes in the buildings, and the accommodation; Departmental Committee now inquiring into the question of space and of new buildings, so that witness feels precluded from entering into the question, *Sir J. Donnelly* 482-502.

Conclusion as to the insufficiency of space and of office accommodation under Mr. Aston Webb's designs; very little space to be gained by the abolition of the residences and by any transfer of staff to Whitehall, *Sir J. Donnelly* 489-494, 507-509.

Evidence to the effect that witness sees no reason to alter the opinion already expressed by him that the science collections should be on the west side of the Exhibition-road, and the art collections on the east side, *Sir J. Donnelly* 503-513, 538—Inexpediency of consolidating the two collections on the same side of the road, *ib.* 510-512.

Explanations in connection with a block of buildings proposed some three or four years ago by the professors of the College of Science on the west side of the road; reference of this block plan to the Office of Works, *Sir J. Donnelly* 513-522, 545—Summary of the number of departments or branches on the scientific side, *ib.* 528, 529.

Particulars respecting the plans of Mr. Aston Webb, which were selected in 1891 as the best of several competing plans; previous approval of the former by witness and other officials, some modifications having been adopted, *Sir J. Donnelly* 556-560.

2. *Representations as to the Claims, in the interests of Science, to ample building accommodation on the west side of Exhibition-road.*

Reference to correspondence in 1876-79 between the Exhibition Commissioners of 1851 and the Treasury respecting a conditional offer by the former to build a science museum and to find 100,000*l.*, this offer having been declined, *Festing* 911-916.

Concurrence of the staff of the College of Science in the view that the science library, the science laboratory, and the science museum should be in the closest connection with each other, and should be on the same side of the road either east or west, *Judd* 938-941, 971, 972.

Arrangement between the Royal Commissioners of 1851 and the Government in 1856, whereby the latter obtained for 60,000*l.* the site upon which the South Kensington Museum now stands, *Sir N. Lockyer* 1024, 1025—Statement as to the reports of the Royal Commissioners not being now presented to Parliament, *ib.* 1026-1029.

Summary of the proposals of the Duke of Devonshire's Commission of 1874 for the establishment of a comprehensive science museum; great importance attached thereto *Sir N. Lockyer* 1030, 1039, 1040—Offer made by the Royal Commission of 1851 to Government in 1896 to provide the land required for a science museum and to put up the building, which was to cost 100,000*l.*; further offer in 1888, which was accepted, to give four and a-half acres to erect a science museum, *ib.* 1031-1039.

Views of witness as to the entire insufficiency of the present science collection, and as to the development required in various directions; necessity for this purpose of much larger accommodation, *Sir N. Lockyer* 1040-1047—Necessity, in course of time, of the College of Science being moved to the other side of Exhibition-road, *ib.* 1211-1214—Very deficient facilities now available for the teaching of pure and applied science, *ib.* 1041-1044, 1047, 1048.

Explanation in connection with plans prepared by witness showing the science exhibition space in museums and laboratories abroad as compared with the space to be occupied on the east of the Exhibition-road, *Sir N. Lockyer* 1050-1068, 1071-1073, 1194-1209—Comment upon the large space left for the extension of the Natural History Museum as compared with the pressing needs and the small available space for an extension of the Science Museum, and of laboratories and apparatus, *ib.* 1074-1083.

Distinct condition of the original sale that the land should be permanently used for purposes connected with science and with the industrial and mechanical arts; plan submitted hereon, *Sir N. Lockyer* 1084-1096, 1113-1117, 1156-1157—Considerable period for which the needs of the several science departments might be met if the four and a-half acres sold to the Government by the Commissioners of 1851 were available for the purpose; small portion proposed to be used in the first instance, *ib.* 1084-1094, 1110-1112.

Decided approval of the plans prepared by Sir John Taylor, these carrying out all the

Report, 1898—continued.

BUILDINGS (SOUTH KENSINGTON)—continued.

2. *Representations as to the Claims, &c.*—continued.

the suggestions made by the professors, and providing for the physical and chemical laboratories, the astronomical department, and the science collections generally, on the west side of the road; that is, over a lengthened period, *Sir N. Lockyer* 1085–1092. 1097–1112.

Strong views of witness as to the claim of science, not only to the user of the four and a-half acres sold by the Commissioners of 1851, but to the gradual provision by Government of the necessary buildings concentrated on the west side of the road; decided priority of claim to that of art, for which everything has already been done, *Sir N. Lockyer* 1113–1127.

Explanation as regards the conveyance of the plot of land south of the Imperial Institute-road from the Royal Commissioners to the Commissioners of Works in March 1890, that it was expressly stipulated that the site should be permanently used for purposes connected with science or the arts, *Sir H. Roscoe* 3120–3123. 3147–3149—Claim on the part of the Commissioners to a return of the site in question if not intended to be used by Government for the purposes stipulated; that is, upon repayment to Government of the sum received for the land in 1890 (70,000*l.*), *ib.* 3123–3125.

Views of the Royal Society as to the great importance of the required expansion of science buildings at South Kensington being provided on the west side of Exhibition-road, *Sir H. Roscoe* 3158*. 3162. 3167—Reference to the proposal for placing art and science together on the east side as entirely novel and as most objectionable, *ib.* 3163–3167. 3191–3193.

Further information in connection with the land owned by the Commissioners of 1851 and the sale of a certain plot to Government in 1890 on certain conditions, which were distinctly understood at the time, *Sir H. Roscoe* 3168–3174—Summary of the buildings and departments representing art and science, respectively, which should be placed on separate sides of the Exhibition-road, as being the natural boundary between the two, *ib.* 3175–3186. 3191–3193.

Entire dissent from any proposals of the Office of Works for retaining parts of the Science Museum alongside the art buildings; necessity of the leading authorities on science being consulted in the matter, *Sir H. Roscoe* 3202–3209. 3230–3232.

Plenty of room for expansion of science buildings on the west side, but not on the east; economy (of a very unwise kind) being the only motive for placing them on the latter site; want, moreover, of increased accommodation on the east side for art treasures, *Sir H. Roscoe* 3222–3226—Conclusion that there would be no difficulty in removing the chemical and certain other departments from the College of Science on the east side and placing them on the west side, *ib.* 3227–3229.

3. *Memorials from Fellows of the Royal Society, and from Members of the Royal Academy:*

Memorial from Fellows of the Royal Society in strong advocacy of the needful expansion of buildings being provided on the west side of Exhibition-road, *App.* 227, 228.

Memorial from numerous members of the Royal Academy; advocacy of the reservation for art of that portion of the land which still remains vacant on the east side of Exhibition-road, *App.* 232.

4. *Particulars of Floor Space, with Plans of Buildings, &c.:*

Statement of floor space at South Kensington Museum on both sides of Exhibition-road, *App.* 210.

Plan of the main square of the Kensington Gore Estate, *App.* 226.

Plan of the South Kensington Museum and surrounding neighbourhood, *App.* 233.

5. *Conclusions and Recommendations of the Committee:*

Unanimous opinion of the Committee that the whole area on the east side of Exhibition-road (except that occupied by the Royal College of Science) should be exclusively devoted to the Art Museum and the Art Library, with provision for the conduct of the business connected with loans of art objects and the art schools, *First Rep.* iii.

Unanimous conclusion that provision for the whole of the science collection, the science library, for loans of scientific objects and for the science schools, be made on west side of the Exhibition-road, *First Rep.* iii.

Conclusion that the concentration of art on one side of the Exhibition-road and of science on the other side is essential to good administration, *First Rep.* iii—Space available

BUILDINGS (SOUTH KENSINGTON)—continued.

5. *Conclusions and Recommendations of the Committee*—continued.
available under the present arrangement for the future development both of the art and of the science branches, *First Rep.* iii.

Summary by the Committee explanatory of the location of the several buildings and of their great inconvenience and entire inadequacy, *Second Rep.* vii—Distribution of the Science Museum and other buildings over a large area, separated by wide thoroughfares, so that great inconvenience and heavy expenditure are entailed, *ib.*—Reference to the influential character of the memorial urging that active steps be taken for the completion of the building, *ib.*

Annual rent of 4,526*l.* paid for the buildings on the west side of the Exhibition-road, including 864*l.* paid to the Imperial Institute in respect of the cross gallery; very inferior character of these buildings, the rent being excessive, *Second Rep.* xxxv—Calculation that the capitalised value of the rental would be sufficient to erect a fine building adapted to modern ideas of museum construction, *ib.*

Recommendation that the offices and secretarial department be removed to Whitehall as soon as the new Government buildings are completed; additional space thereby at South Kensington. *Second Rep.* xxxv—Additional space by removing the barracks and canteen, and by abolishing the museum of fish culture, *ib.*

Further recommendations, in accordance with previous Reports, as to the provision to be made on the east side and west side, respectively, of the Exhibition-road, *Second Rep.* xxxvii.

See also *Art (Art Museum, &c.)*. *Fire.* *Geological Collection.* *Jermyn-street Museum.* *Laboratories.* *Libraries.* *Resident Officers.* *Rooms or Galleries.* *Science Museum.*

C.

Cartoons. Admission that some cartoons or mosaics in one of the larger galleries have long remained in an unfinished state, *Skinner* 1803-1811.

Casts. Suggestions as regards the collection of casts and their arrangement, *Skinner* 1610-1617.

CATALOGUES:

Information as to the payments made to Mr. Pollen and other gentlemen for the compilation of the catalogues of photographs, *Sir J. Donnelly* 299-306—Further statement of the daily fees paid to Mr. Pollen and others engaged upon the catalogue of photographs; expense also for one or two boy writers, *ib.* 411-419.

Information as to the cost incurred in respect of the National Portrait Catalogue upon which Mr. Julian Marshall was engaged; special reference to a payment to him of 56*l.* 14*s.* for twenty-seven days, upon voucher by Mr. Weale, *Sir J. Donnelly* 420-447.

Memorandum by Mr. Clarke to the effect that in the preparation of the catalogue of the Indian photographs only one boy attendant was employed as an assistant to Mr. Pollen and his staff, *Sir J. Donnelly* 472.

Information with further reference to the payments made to Mr. Marshall in respect of the National Portrait Catalogue, *Sir J. Donnelly* 472-476—Total of 1,971 foreign portraits already catalogued, *ib.* 578.

Belief that Mr. Mallet's catalogue of the Piot Collection was intended to be printed and is now being incorporated with other catalogues; opinion that the catalogue in question is a good one, *Sir J. Donnelly* 712-716.

Importance of the geological catalogues being kept up to date, though this is a very difficult matter, *Judd* 965, 966—Defect of the catalogues as regards the objects in witness' department, *Skinner* 1603-1606—Explanation of the facilities for the purchase of catalogues by the public, and of the steps taken by witness and other officials for the supply of cheap descriptive catalogues, *ib.* 1758-1769.

Advantage of cheap illustrated catalogues being issued with the more important loan collections, as at Birmingham, *Second Rep.* xvii—Increased popularity of the museum by a proper system of cataloguing and labelling the objects, *ib.* xviii—Important reforms suggested as regards catalogues, all of which should be under the undivided control of the Department, *ib.*

Expediency of special catalogues being issued without delay, there being room for considerable saving under an amended system, *Second Rep.* xviii—Strong condemnation of the catalogue of National Engraved Portraits, which is grossly inaccurate and excessively costly, *ib.* xviii, xxv, xxvi.

CATALOGUES—continued.

Conclusions and suggestions on the subject of catalogues in the Art Library; testimony to the value of the system introduced by Mr. Weale, *Second Rep.* xxiv—Comment upon past neglect and incompetency in connection with the cataloguing for the Art Library, *ib.* xxv—Improper appointments made in spite of protests by the keeper, *ib.*

Excellent and cheap catalogue of the National Portrait Gallery, *Second Rep.* xxv, xxvi.

Recommended increase of stall accommodation for the sale of catalogues and photographs, *Second Rep.* xxxv.

Chemical Department. See *Laboratories*.

Circulation, System of. See *Loans, &c.*

Classification of Objects. Great importance of a classification of objects; difficulty hitherto through want of adequate staff, *Second Rep.* xxviii.

Collections, Value of. Numerous objects purchased for the museum which have no technical or artistic value many of them having gone to Bethnal Green, *Second Rep.* xxii—Expediency of considerable elimination, several forgeries or worthless objects being cited, *ib.*—See also *Obsolete Objects. Purchases.*

Cost. See *Expenditure*.

Courthope, William John. (Digest of his Evidence.)—As Civil Service Commissioner witness explains that since an Order in Council in 1871 probationary reports have not been received by the Commission respecting clerks appointed after examination to any Public Department; report received only in the case of clerks non-accepted during probation, 2219–2225. 2231–2248. 2253–2255—It is not known to the candidates who the examiners are, 2227–2230. 2249–2252.

D.

Diaries. Suggested re-adoption of the system of monthly and weekly diaries, *Second Rep.* xxx.

Directors (Art and Science Museums). See *Administration. Staff.*

Dobbie, Professor James J., M.A., D.Sc. (Digest of his Evidence.)—Witness is Professor of Chemistry in the University College of North Wales, at Bangor, and has taken the chief part in the arrangement of the museum attached to the college, 2935–2938.

Several reasons submitted in support of the conclusion that it is most important for educational purposes that a museum is attached to the college at Bangor; suggestions as to the required extension of the museum collections in different directions, 2939–2952—Very substantial character of the present museum, the number of specimens in the botanical, geological, and other collections being not less than 10,000; 2940, 2941.

Hardship in Bangor being precluded by existing regulations from obtaining grants of money or loans of objects from South Kensington; instance of difficulty in obtaining a modification of the rules, 2941, 2942. 2959–2967—Insufficient funds of Bangor College for the required extension of the museum buildings and the further acquisition and arrangement of specimens; total income of about 10,000*l.*; 2941. 2968, 2969—Claim to a Government subsidy in aid of the museum; great educational benefits thereby, 2941–2949.

Valuable results of the circulation of objects from local museums, 2950–2952—Suggested operation of one large museum in Wales from three centres, 2953–2958—Beneficial operation of collections illustrative of local antiquities and of the growth of local manners and customs, 2958.

Documents. Recommendation by the Committee on the subject of the preservation of documents, correspondence, &c., *Second Rep.* xxxiv.

Donnelly, Major-General Sir John, K.C.B. (Digest of his Evidence.)—Explanations in connection with plan to be submitted to the Committee showing the several buildings at South Kensington as they existed before the recent demolition and the buildings now in existence, 1–3—Considerable increase in 1897 as compared with 1895 in the number of objects on loan to provincial museums, &c., 4–6.

Quotation of certain provisions of the Superannuation Act and of the Order in Council of June 1870 as regards the regulations with respect to appointments in the museums; final settlement of this matter by the Treasury on 31st December 1897, reference having first been made to the Civil Service Commissioners, 10–17.

Explanations in connection with statement showing the number of Sunday visitors to South Kensington, Bethnal Green, and Jermyn-street Museums, since April 1896; 327.—IND.

Donnelly, Major-General Sir John, K.C.B. (Digest of his Evidence) —continued.

18-26—Absence of power in the Director of Art to make purchases for South Kensington up to 20*l.*, though the director of the museum has such power, 27-41—Statement as to the unexpended balance of the sum provided for purchases not being now surrendered at the end of the financial year, 42, 43.

Explanation respecting the retirement of Mr. Weale and the circumstances under which his employment was continued, not only beyond the age of sixty-five but beyond the time sanctioned by the Treasury; reference to official correspondence on the subject, 44-47, 93-108.

Grounds for justifying certain purchases at the Hamilton sale, questioned by Sir Charles Robinson and by "Truth"; responsibility of the late Mr. Mundella for these purchases, which were approved by several art authorities, 48, 58, 66, 92—Approval of the course taken in obtaining a valuation from Mr. Whitehead, a broker, who has for many years acted for the Department and for the British Museum, before the foregoing purchases were made, 48, 51, 77, 91—Explanation that it was never suggested that a so-called, "Wolsey" Chair really belonged to the Cardinal, 54-57, 69-76.

Evidence adverse to the view that the accounts should show a clear distinction between expenditure on furniture, &c. for the Art Museum, and on furniture, &c. for the Science Museum, 110-125—Nominal character of a certain change in the procedure in connection with the right of the museum staff to make purchases up to 20*l.*, 124-127.

[Second Examination.]—Production of the correspondence relating to the retirement of Mr. Weale; gratuity of 375*l.* 8*s.* 5*d.* eventually awarded to Mr. Weale by the Treasury, 128-131—Explanation with further reference to the functions exercised by the Director of Art and the Director of the Museum, respectively, in respect of purchases; clear power now vested in the latter to make purchases without necessarily consulting the former, 133-148.

Information promised respecting the Indian objects destroyed or damaged by the fire in the French annexe in 1885, 149—Inability of witness to trace a certain report on the Molinari Gateway, which was sent to Sir Phillip Owen, 150, 151.

Belief that no report about Mr. Lehfeldt has ever passed through the registry, 152-156—Information respecting the number of marks obtained in German and other foreign languages by Mr. Lehfeldt and other candidates examined at the same time, 157-163.

Explanation as to certain guide books sold in the museum and as to the authority for their sale; belief that nothing is paid by the department for the compilation of guides, 167-179—Use to be made of the temporary tin and wood buildings which used to be in the quadrangle; belief that they will not be used for exhibition, 183-186—Information respecting certain objects injured or lost when on loan from or to the museum, it being stated that a watch was stolen; rule not to give compensation when articles lent to the museum are damaged, 187-197.

Summary of amounts of expenditure of the Stores Department under different heads; objection to any alteration in the form of the Estimate, 198-208—Increased expenditure for vans, this having been sanctioned by the Treasury, 209-215—Large increase since 1891 in the staff of clerical assistants, due mainly to the gradual discontinuance of Civil Service writers, 218-225.

Payment of all salaries monthly, whilst some tradesmen's bills are paid every three months; belief that there are no arrears of payment in the latter case, 226-237—Examination as to some discrepancies between estimates and expenditure through the annual reports of the department being for the year ending 31st December, whilst the Estimates and Appropriation Accounts are for the year ending 31st March; full check in the Comptroller and Auditor General and in the Public Accounts Committee upon irregularity or excess of expenditure, 238-274.

Explanations respecting the annual expenditure upon furniture, materials, &c., at Bethnal Green Museum, the amount for ten years being 6,680*l.*, inclusive of cases and fittings; expenditure also of from 400*l.* to 500*l.* a year by the Office of Works on maintenance and repairs, 275-298—Information as to the payments made to Mr. Pollen and other gentlemen for the compilation of the catalogues of photographs, 299-306.

Paper to be furnished by witness setting forth details of the staff and showing his views as to what an ideal staff should be, 307-310—Summary of the several grades of officials and of the number of officers in each grade, the responsibility being clearly defined, 311-314.

[Third Examination.]—Further evidence, in considerable detail, respecting the retirement of Mr. Weale and the correspondence with the Treasury on the subject; the witness declines to produce to the Committee the minutes and correspondence within the department relative to this case, 315-376, 382, 385.

Report, 1898—*continued.*

Donnelly, Major-General Sir John, K.C.B. (Digest of his Evidence)—continued.

Extension in October last of the service of Mr. Armstrong beyond the age of 65; grounds for justifying his continued retention of office, 377–381. 394–410—General rule that any applications or recommendations from officials as regards retirement, &c. must go through witness to the Lord President or Vice-President, 388–394.

Further statement of the daily fees paid to Mr. Pollen and others engaged upon the catalogue of photographs; expense also for one or two boy writers, 411–419—Information as to the cost incurred in respect of the National Portrait Catalogue, upon which Mr. Julian Marshall was engaged; special reference to a payment to him of 56*l.* 14*s.* for twenty-seven days, upon voucher by Mr. Weale, 420–447.

Approval of the museum being free to the public every day if there be no financial difficulties in the way; portion of the buildings now free, 448–450—Memorandum submitted, together with further explanations, respecting the practice as to guide books and the arrangements under which they are allowed to be sold and the price fixed, 451–454.

Reasons further submitted in disapproval of alterations in the form of the Estimates and of the Appropriation Account, these being settled by the Treasury, whilst the accounts of the Department are subject to the review of the Comptroller and Auditor General, 454*–458—Comment upon the mode of inquiry by some members of the Committee respecting the accounts, as misleading the public in regard to the administration of the Department, 458.

[Fourth Examination]. Explanation with further reference to the question of apportionment of the charge for furniture, &c., as between the Science Museum, the Art Museum, and Bethnal Green; great extent of the total number of cases, *p.* 30—Statement showing the amount of damage to the Indian Collection by the fire in 1885; injury chiefly to the Ajunta Cave drawings, many of which were destroyed, *p.* 30 (460, 461).

Information respecting the Piot Collection, which was purchased with the approval of Sir Edward Poynter; inaccuracy of statement in the "Pall Mall Gazette" that Mr. Soden Smith declined to have the collection catalogued, 461–463—Explanation in reply to statement that, many years ago, a watch was stolen and one of the sappers was charged with the theft, 463–467.

Further information as to the large expense incurred for van service and carriage of materials, cases of casts, &c., as in connection with Bethnal Green Museum, 467—Statement as to the cost of the superintendence and custody of photographic negatives, &c.; amended arrangement since 1891; 467.

Particulars as to the expenditure in different years upon the historical collection of water colours, and upon copies of works of art in water colours; discrepancy between the expenditure in the calendar year and in the financial year, 467–472—Memorandum by Mr. Clarke to the effect that in the preparation of the catalogue of the Indian photographs, only one boy attendant was employed as an assistant to Mr. Pollen and his staff, 472—Information with further reference to the payments made to Mr. Marshall in respect of the National Portrait Catalogue, 472–476.

Further explanation in connection with the Appropriation Account, and the form of the Estimates, showing the supervision exercised, respectively, by the Comptroller and Auditor General and by the Treasury, 476–481.

Examination respecting the proposed removal of portions of the Science Museum to the other side of the Exhibition-road, as well as several other proposed changes in the buildings and the accommodation; Departmental Committee now inquiring into the question of space and of new buildings, so that witness feels precluded from entering into the question, 482–502—Conclusion as to the insufficiency of space and of office accommodation under Mr. Aston Webb's designs; very little space to be gained by the abolition of the residences, and by any transfer of staff to Whitehall, 489–494.

[Fifth Examination]. Evidence to the effect that witness sees no reason to alter the opinion already expressed by him that the Science Collections should be on the west side of the Exhibition-road, and the Art Collections on the east side, 503–513. 538—Further statement as to the limited space to be acquired by removal of the official residences and transfer of staff to Whitehall, 507–509—Inexpediency of consolidating the two collections on the same side of Exhibition-road, 510–512.

Explanations in connection with a block of buildings proposed some three or four years ago by the professors of the College of Science on the west side of the road; reference of this block plan to the Office of Works, 513–522. 545—Decided opinion that some official residences should be provided; four such residences at present, this number being expedient as a minimum, 523–527. 570–572—Summary of the number of departments or branches on the scientific side, 528, 529.

Evidence in support of the view that the Jermyn-street Museum, with its very valuable Science Library, the whole of the Geological Survey, as well as the collections of

Donnelly, Major-General Sir John, K.C.B. (Digest of his Evidence)—*continued.*
 of metallurgy, pottery, &c., should be removed to South Kensington; ample space available, 530–533, 539–548—Reference to a proposal by the Treasury a few years ago for the removal of the Jermyn-street collections to South Kensington, 533–536—Suggestions upon the subject of the detailed distribution of the collections if removed from Jermyn-street, 546–548.

Undertaking on witness' part (at the instance of the Committee) to submit to the Lord President that the question of the removal of the Jermyn-street Museum be referred to the Departmental Committee now inquiring as to the space available at South Kensington, 549, 550.

Belief that there is no disadvantage in Sir Norman Lockyer's Observatory being still located on its present site, 551–556—Explanations in connection with the plans of Mr. Aston Webb, which were selected in 1891, as the best of several competing plans; previous approval of the former by witness and other officials, some modifications having been adopted, 556–569—Exceptions taken to numerous small exhibition rooms, instead of the system of galleries round courts, 557–564.

Non-adoption up to the present time of any proposal for a change of administration in view of the retirement of Mr. Armstrong, 573–577—Total of 1,071 foreign portraits already catalogued, 578.

Examination in further detail respecting the correspondence between the Treasury and the Department in Mr. Weale's case, and the circumstances under which his retirement was postponed and payment was made to him by witness during his continued employment; admitted irregularity of such payment, 579–591, 596–619, 631–649.

Further statement respecting the extension allowed in Mr. Armstrong's case, and the terms and conditions thereof; conclusion that the conditions were made known to him, 592–595, 620–630.

Belief that the present keeper of the Art Library (Mr. Palmer), has had more than ten years' service, 650–654—Statement to the effect that as regards the expenditure for furniture cases, &c. (under Vote II. 5), it would not be practicable from the accounts to differentiate in detail or with accuracy, between the precise cost incurred in respect of Bethnal Green and of South Kensington; all the vouchers go to the Audit Office, 655–695—Absence of any advantage in having a separate sub-head for furniture, &c. for Bethnal Green as there is for Jermyn-street, Dublin, and Edinburgh, 675–679.

Explanations in reply to certain queries and objections raised as regards the annual report of the Department not showing clearly the separate expenditure on water colours, paintings in oil, and other objects; reference to the figures in question as having nothing to do with the Appropriation Account, 696–709.

[Sixth Examination.]—Witness submits the correspondence which passed between the Treasury and the Science and Art Department in March, April and May, 1892, upon the question of the removal of the Geological Museum from Jermyn-street to South Kensington; reference to a memorandum in detail by Sir Archibald Geikie on the subject, 710 (pp. 49, 50.)

Belief that Mr. Mollet's catalogue of the Piot Collection was intended to be printed, and is now being incorporated with other catalogues; opinion that the catalogue in question is a good one, 712–716.

Examination upon the subject of board meetings, witness finding it difficult to give a precise definition of what constitutes a board, though the Vice-President frequently attends and meets the various officers of the Department, boards held when Lord Spencer was President of the Council, 717–734.

Explanation with further reference to the accounts and the practice as to re-casting, this having had nothing to do with some defalcations in the time of Sir H. Cole, 735—Custody of the old books and accounts in the Department, the vouchers at the Audit Office being destroyed every seven years, 735.

Draft Reports. Draft First Report, as proposed by the Chairman, adopted without amendment, *First Rep.* vi, vii.

Draft Second Report proposed by the Chairman of the Committee, *Second Rep.* xli–lvi—Draft Report proposed by Lord Balfour, *ib.* lv; lxxvi—Adoption of the former, subject to several amendments, *ib.* lxxiv–cv.

Report, 1898—*continued.*

DUBLIN MUSEUM:

1. *Administration and Management.*
2. *Building Accommodation.*
3. *Visitors; Hours of Admission.*
4. *Question of Sunday Opening.*
5. *Degree of Usefulness of the Museum; Suggestions for its Improvement and Development in several directions.*
6. *Expenditure; inadequacy of the Public Grant for the Museum and National Library.*
7. *Conclusions of the Committee.*

1. Administration and Management:

Conclusion as regards the Dublin Museum that its usefulness might be greatly extended if certain changes were made in the system of management; suggestions hereon, *Graves* 1868, 1869, 1882 *et seq.*—Imperfect character of the catalogues or guides; improvement if there were qualified living guides for explaining particular objects, *ib.* 1869, 1882, 1889, 1891–1898.

Evidence strongly in favour of the museum being under the control of an Irish Board, with full powers of initiation; several advantages anticipated, whilst in all probability larger grants would be obtained than under the system of management from London through South Kensington, *Graves* 1986–2004, 2039–2041, 2055, 2111–2115, 2155–2158—Unsatisfactory working of the Board of Visitors, inasmuch as their powers are too limited and they have no power of initiation, *ib.* 1987–1989, 2010, 2089–2099.

Testimony to the efficiency of Colonel Plunkett as the head of the museum, *Graves* 2020—Special importance of the museum being administered in the interests of education, and being in close touch with schools and other educational institutions of Ireland; suggestion hereon, *ib.* 2033–2039, 2130–2132, 2146–2150.

Exceptions taken to Mr. Graves' suggestions on the subject of living guides; preference for the present plan of admitting, by ticket, to occasional lectures when the museum is closed to the general public, *Plunkett* 2181–2188—Entire disagreement with certain suggestions for the formation of committees of selection and circulation, *ib.* 2196–2198, 2209—Illustration of the power of initiation in the Board of Visitors, *ib.* 2213—Assistance given by the museum to other museums in Ireland in the shape of loans, *ib.* 2213, 2214.

2. Building Accommodation:

Recommendations for an extension of the buildings and for an increase of space for industrial and other purposes, *Graves* 1916–1919—Suggestion that some of the objects might be sold by public auction, as one means of providing additional space for more useful objects, *ib.* 1919.

Entire concurrence with Colonel Plunkett that the buildings of the Science and Art Museum are inadequate; suggestions as to the extensions required, *Graves* 1976–1978, 2053, 2063, 2137–2139, 2161—Great advantage in having the site of the Royal College of Science adjacent to the museum; explanations respecting the land available, *ib.* 1979–1985, 2137–2139.

Concurrence with Mr. Graves that lecture-rooms, laboratories, and class rooms for science (as in the new College of Science) should be close to the museum; necessary purchase of land for the required site, *Plunkett* 2176–2181.

3. Visitors; Hours of Admission:

Explanation as regards the official returns of the large number of visitors, that very many pass through the museum as a “short cut,” and that many trippers go there, but without any educational object, *Graves* 1869–1881, 1888, 1897—Improvement if the museum were open in the evening till 9.30; *ib.* 2042–2044.

Dissent from Mr. Graves as to the extent to which the museum is used by the working classes; very small number of the general public who pass through it as being a “short cut,” it being really shorter to go outside, *Plunkett* 2189–2194—Contemplated extension of the hours twice a week till 10 o'clock; statement of the present hours, *ib.* 2211–2213—Constant use of the museum by students in the adjacent School of Art, *ib.* 2215–2217.

4. Question of Sunday Opening:

Personal approval of the Dublin Museum being open on Sundays for lectures, and also on Sunday evenings; division of public opinion on the subject, so that the change had better not be made at present, *Plunkett* 2162–2164, 2213.

5. Degree of Usefulness of the Museum; Suggestions for its Improvement and Development in several directions:

Grounds for the opinion that the museum is not in touch with the industries of Dublin and of Ireland, witness making several recommendations on this score, *Graves* 1882

DUBLIN MUSEUM—continued.5. *Degree of Usefulness of the Museum, &c.*—continued

1882 *et seq.*—Reference to the Special Exhibition at Bethnal Green in 1896 as an example that might well be followed in Dublin. *Graves* 1889, 1890, 1916—Suggestions on the subject of lectures by officials of the museum as one means of making the museum of much greater educational usefulness, *ib.* 1904.

Evidence in support of the conclusion that instruction by means of exhibits of machinery in motion is greatly needed as regards brewing, leather, lace, printing, coach building, and several other industries, *Graves* 1922–1961—Doubt whether the museum is a suitable place for agricultural exhibits, *ib.* 1922–1925—Suggestion that architecture might be taken up in connection with the furniture collection, *ib.* 1930–1932.

Explanation of witness' views as to the expediency of a much larger elimination of objects in the Dublin Museum, and as to the advantage hereon if there were committees of selection and elimination, *Graves* 2005–2013, 2067–2075, 2140–2144—Question further considered as to the expediency of a museum of science and art being in touch with the trade, and being the medium of technical instruction in brewing and other processes, *ib.* 2021, 2076–2088, 2130–2132.

Information as to the great educational value of some of the collections and exhibits in connection with agriculture as well as with furniture, china, plate, wood carving, and other industries, *Plunkett* 2194–2196—Limited value attached to machinery and models of factories, as with reference to brewing or the flax industry, *ib.* 2194–2200–2207.

Large number of objects received on permanent loan from South Kensington; great advantage of the constant assistance received from the department, which would probably be lost if the museum were entirely separated and were under an Irish Board, *Plunkett* 2207–2209, 2215, 2217, 2218.

6. *Expenditure; inadequacy of the Public Grant for the Museum and National Library.*

Entire inadequacy of a purchase Vote of 2,000*l.* for the extensions contemplated by witness, *Graves* 1952–1961—Explanatory statement in detail purporting to show that Dublin has been very unfairly treated financially in the matter of museums and galleries, and of the National Library in comparison with London and with Scotland, *ib.* 1962–1976, 1997–2000, 2051, 2056–2062.

Importance of a larger grant as a means towards improvement and development of the National Library in Dublin; great deficiency of technical books through want of funds, *Graves* 2024–2032, 2146–2150, 2159–2161—Great value of increased grants to the museum with a view to the development of the manufacturing industries of the country, *ib.* 2133–2136.

Entire insufficiency of the grant for the National Library, though it has been recently increased from 1,000*l.* to 1,300*l.*, *Plunkett* 2209–2211.

7. *Conclusions of the Committee:*

Review by the Committee of the circumstances in connection with the formation and development of the museum; outline of the system of administration, *Second Rep.* vi—Varied and valuable character of the collections, which are said to be much cramped for want of space, *ib.*

Summary of expenditure in the year 1897–98 under different heads; total of 28,248*l.*, *Second Rep.* xii—Inadequacy of the space comprised in the buildings; steps being taken to provide extra rooms, lecture rooms being also required, *ib.* xxvii.

Expediency of the Director being allowed initiative and responsibility in the matter of purchases, &c., *Second Rep.* xxxii—Suggested increase in the salary of the keeper of the Celtic antiquities, *ib.*—Several other suggestions for the better administration of the museum, and its greater usefulness in connection with the art industries of Ireland, *ib.* xxxiii.

Dundee (Albert Institute). Communication from Mr. J. MacLachlan dated 14th May 1898, respecting the working of the Albert Institute of Literature, Science, and Art, *App.* 230.

Duplication of Specimens. Extent of duplication of specimens at the Natural History Museum and the Jermyn-street Museum, respectively, *Festney* 814, 815.

Dyce and Forster Library. Review of evidence respecting the Dyce and Forster Library; suggestions as to its administration, *Second Rep.* xxvi.

E.

East End (London). Exceptions taken to suggestion that those exhibits of special value to the artizan classes might be moved from South Kensington to the East End of London, *Festing* 886–888—Much greater facility in East End residents going to Bethnal Green Museum than to South Kensington, *Blow* 2542–2544. 2555–2557. 2610–2614—Difficulty in the working classes of the East End visiting South Kensington on account of the distance and the time required and the expense, *ib.* 2610–2614. 2618–2621—See also *Bethnal Green Museum*. *Toynbee Hall*.

Edinburgh Museum. Review by the Committee of the circumstances connected with the formation of the Science and Art Museum at Edinburgh, and its gradual development, *Second Rep.* v, vi—Summary of the collections, which are of a very valuable character, *ib.* vi—Statement of expenditure in 1897–98 under different heads; total of 17,544*l.*; *ib.* xii.

Injury to the Edinburgh Museum from the centralising tendency of South Kensington; illustration in the restrictions upon purchases, *Second Rep.* xxxii—Conclusion that the head of the Edinburgh Department should be allowed greater initiative as to purchases, *ib.*

Expediency of the Edinburgh Museum sharing in the work of distributing loans among the Scottish Museums and Art Schools, *Second Rep.* xxxii.

Suggestions as to the objects which should be removed from the museum, and as to those which might be transferred to it from South Kensington, *Second Rep.* xxxii.

Education Minister. Paramount importance attached by the Committee to the creation of an Education Minister of Cabinet rank, having a seat in the Legislature, and aided by a Parliamentary Secretary, *Second Rep.* xxxvi.

Estimates. See *Accounts and Estimates*. *Expenditure*. *Furniture, &c.*

Exhibition Cases. Explanation of the process in obtaining cases for the Art Museum the designs being made by Mr. Clarke and witness, and the cases being ordered through General Festing; occasional difficulty on the score of cost, *Skinner* 1514–1533. 1595, 1596—See also *Furniture, &c.* *Loans, &c.* *Students and Teachers*.

Exhibition-road. See *Buildings*.

Expenditure. Payment of all salaries at South Kensington monthly, whilst some tradesmen's bills are paid every three months; belief that there are no arrears of payment in the latter case, *Sir J. Donnelly* 226–237.

Examination as to some discrepancies between estimates and expenditure through the annual reports of the Department being for the year ending 31st December, whilst the Estimates and Appropriation Accounts are for the year ending 31st March; full check in the Comptroller and Auditor General and in the Public Accounts Committee upon irregularity or excess of expenditure, *Sir J. Donnelly* 238–274. 454–458. 476–481.

Memorandum showing the amounts provided in the Estimates of 1897–98 for museums and libraries under the Department of Science and Art, *App.* 210.

Comment by the Committee upon the heavy expenditure entailed by the scattered distribution of the buildings and by their inconvenient and inadequate character, *Second Rep.* vii. x—Three sources of expenditure at South Kensington which must of necessity greatly increase the annual cost as compared with other museums, *ib.* x—Considerable expenditure necessarily entailed by the Circulation Department and its administration, *ib.*

Classification of the expenditure, generally, at South Kensington, under different heads, according to the estimate of cost for the year 1897–98; total of 83,871*l.*, *Second Rep.* xi.

See also *Accounts and Estimates*. *Bethnal Green Museum*, 2. *Buildings*.
Catalogues. *Dublin Museum*, 6. *Furniture, &c.* *Purchases*. *Stores, &c.*
Water Colours.

F.

Festing, Major General E. R., F.R.S. (Digest of his Evidence).—Witness, who is Director of the Science Museum at South Kensington, submits a statement showing in detail the history and progress of the museum, and the recommendations of several committees and Royal Commissions for its development, 736–742.

Description of the location of the different science collections at the present time, the available space being very inadequate; urgent want of a minimum exhibition space of about 90,000 square feet, 741–749—Satisfactory condition of the library, which

Festing, Major General, E. R., F.R.S. (Digest of his Evidence)—*continued.*
which is on the east side of the road; improvement if it and other science collections were on the west side, 750–755. 803–809—Sufficient room for the accommodation of students, and of science classes; facilities given, 756, 757, 768–770, 775–785.

Grounds for the conclusion that it is very desirable to remove the Geological Museum, with all its collections, from Jermyn-street to South Kensington; very little duplication at present, 758–767. 889–910—Distinct objects of the pottery collections at Jermyn-street and at South Kensington; approval of the former being transferred to the art side at South Kensington, 762–767. 889–892.

Gradual expansion of the Science Museum, though many of the models and records are somewhat antiquated; usefulness of these for purposes of illustration, 771–773. 816–842—Reference to the fumes from the chemical laboratory as being rapidly dispersed, so that they are not injurious to the art collections, 774. 807–813.

Action of a standing committee of advice in respect of purchases, 775—Explanations with further reference to the facilities given to classes from schools in connection with the Science and Art Department question; consideration as to the circulation of objects or specimens to schools not in connection with the Department, 776–798—Reference to the food collection, the agricultural collection, and some others as having ceased to expand, 799–802—Extent of duplication of specimens at the Natural History Museum and the Jermyn-street Museum, 814, 815.

Approval generally of models being kept up to date, though this necessitates much expense; recognition of this principle as much as possible, 832–860—Explanation as to the action generally of witness in the matter of purchases for the Science Museum and as to the functions exercised by the two keepers in his department, less technical character of the museum than of the Paris Collection of Arts et Métiers, 847–865. 869. 870. 879–888.

Instances of permission being given to students or teachers to take objects out of cases, 866, 867—Difficulty in describing intricate machines or models by means of labels, 868—Information respecting the collection of naval models, and the removal to Greenwich of those belonging to the Admiralty, 871–878.

Exceptions taken to suggestion that those exhibits of special value to the artisan classes might be moved to the East End of London, 886–888—Approval of the transfer to South Kensington of the technological collection now in Jermyn-street as well as of the geological collection, 893–901—Decided advantage if the portion of the geological library retained at Jermyn-street were transferred to South Kensington, 902–910.

Reference to correspondence in 1876–79 between the Exhibition Commissioners of 1851 and the Treasury respecting a conditional offer by the former to build a Science Museum, and to find 100,000*l.*, this offer having been declined, 911–916—Explanation respecting the estimates of expenditure at Bethnal Green as compared with the actual expenditure; difficulty in showing separately the precise amount of each item, 917–930.

Fire. Conclusion of the Committee that there is no reason why the Metropolitan Fire Brigade should not have the full responsibility at the South Kensington Museum as much as at the British Museum, the Home Office, or the Palace of Westminster. *Second Rep.* xxix, xxx.

Review of the recommendations made and of the steps taken from time to time for the prevention of fires; conclusion that the risks are still great, and that the best course is to hand over the entire responsibility to the Metropolitan Fire Brigade. *Second Rep.* xxxv.

See also *Buildings. Laboratories. Police.*

Fish Culture. Grounds for the recommendation that the museum of fish culture should be abolished without delay. *Second Rep.* xxvii.

Foreign Countries (Industrial Competition). Enormous importance nationally of a great development of technical and scientific education in order that this country may hold her own in industrial competition with Germany and other foreign countries. *Sir N. Lockyer* 1069.

Information respecting polytechnics and laboratories in Switzerland and other foreign countries with reference to the provision of apparatus for teaching purposes as compared with the provision at South Kensington. *Sir N. Lockyer* 1147–1150. 1166. 1201–1209.

Free Admission. Approval of the South Kensington Museum being free to the public every day, if there be no financial difficulties in the way, portion of the buildings now free, *Sir J. Donnelly* 448–450.

Recommendation by the Committee that the admission to all the museums be always free, *Second Rep.* xxxvii.

Furniture, &c. Evidence adverse to the view that the accounts should show a clear distinction between expenditure on furniture, &c. for the Art Museum and on furniture, &c. for the Science Museum, *Sir J. Donnelly* 110–125.

Explanation with further reference to the question of apportionment of the charge for furniture, &c. as between the Science Museum, the Art Museum, and Bethnal Green; great extent of the total number of cases, *Sir J. Donnelly*, p. 30.

Statement to the effect that as regards the expenditure for furniture cases, &c. (under Vote H. 5) it would not be practicable from the accounts to differentiate in detail or with accuracy between the precise cost incurred in respect of Bethnal Green and of South Kensington; all the vouchers go to the Audit Office, *Sir J. Donnelly* 655–695—Absence of any advantage in having a separate sub-head for furniture, &c. for Bethnal Green as there is for Jermyn-street, Dublin, and Edinburgh, *ib.* 675–679.

G.

Geological Collection. Large additional space required on the west side of Exhibition-road if the geological collection under witness is to be properly developed, *Judd* 962, 963—See also *Jermyn-street Museum*.

Geological Survey. Very limited space now available in Jermyn-street for the geological survey, *Judd* 958–961.

Statement to the effect that the geological survey of the United Kingdom is far from being completed; expediency of the geological collection being kept with the geological map, *Hull* 2987–2996—Conduct of the survey from the offices in Jermyn-street; conclusion that the survey will still go with the offices if removed to South Kensington, *ib.* 2997–3003, 3009–3011.

Graves, Arnold. (Digest of his Evidence.)—Several official positions filled by witness in Ireland; great interest taken by him in the question of technical education, and in the operation of museums for educational purposes, 1861*–1867.

Conclusion as regards the Dublin Museum that its usefulness might be greatly extended if certain changes were made in the system of management; suggestions hereon, 1868, 1869, 1882 *et seq.*—Imperfect character of the catalogues or guides; improvement if there were qualified living guides for explaining particular objects, 1869, 1882, 1889, 1891–1898—Explanation as regards the official returns of the large number of visitors that very many pass through the museum as a “short cut,” and that many trippers go there, but without any educational object, 1869–1881, 1888, 1897.

Grounds for the opinion that the museum is not in touch with the industries of Dublin and of Ireland, witness making several recommendations on this score, 1882 *et seq.*—Very few workmen who use the museum, 1888, 1897—Suggestions on the subject of lectures by officials of the museum, as one means of making the museum of much greater educational usefulness, 1889, 1899–1904—Reference to the Special Exhibition at Bethnal Green in 1896 as an example that might well be followed in Dublin, 1889, 1890, 1916.

Very little use of the science branch at South Kensington to schools in Ireland; proposal hereon that collections of scientific apparatus be made available through the Dublin Museum to the Irish schools in the form of loans, 1905–1915, 1920, 1921—Recommendations for an extension of the buildings and for an increase of space for industrial and other purposes, 1916–1919—Suggestion that some of the objects might be sold by public auction as one means of providing additional space for more useful objects, 1919.

Evidence in support of the conclusion that instruction, by means of exhibits and of machinery in motion, is greatly needed as regards brewing, distilling, the manufacture of linen, leather, lace, printing, coach-building, and several other industries, 1922–1961—Doubt whether the museum is a suitable place for agricultural exhibits, 1922–1925—Suggestion that architecture might be taken up in connection with the furniture collection, 1930–1932—Entire inadequacy of a purchase Vote of 2,000*l.* for the extensions contemplated by witness, 1952–1961.

[Second Examination.]—Explanatory statement in detail purporting to show that Dublin has been very unfairly treated, financially, in the matter of museums and galleries and of the National Library, in comparison with London and with Scotland, 1962–1976, 1997–2000, 2054, 2056–2062—Reference to the large expenditure on South Kensington and Bethnal Green, as in no way benefiting the people of Ireland, 1963–1972.

Entire concurrence with Colonel Plunkett that the buildings of the Dublin Science and Art Museum are inadequate; suggestions as to the extensions required, 1976–1978, 2053, 2063, 2137–2139, 2161—Great advantage in having the site of the

Graves, Arnold. (Digest of his Evidence)—*continued.*

Royal College of Science adjacent to the museum; explanations respecting the land available, 1979-1985. 2137-2139.

Evidence strongly in favour of the Dublin Museum being under the control of an Irish board, with full powers of initiation; several advantages anticipated, whilst in all probability larger grants would be obtained than under the system of management from London through South Kensington, 1986-2004. 2039-2041. 2055. 2111-2115. 2155-2158—Approval of an Irish board of management being in connection with the proposed Department of Agriculture and Industry for Ireland, 1986. 1989. 2064. 2066. 2155, 2156—Unsatisfactory working of the Board of Visitors, inasmuch as their powers are too limited and they have no power of initiation, 1987-1989. 2010. 2089-2099.

Explanation of witness' views as to the expediency of a much larger elimination of objects in the Dublin Museum, and as to the advantage hereon if there were committees of selection and elimination, 2005-2013. 2067-2075. 2140-2144—Exception taken to certain evidence of Sir John Donnelly as to the unpopularity of lectures and the difficulty of getting the public to attend; objection to attend on Sundays, 2014-2019. 2145—Testimony to the efficiency of Colonel Plunkett as the head of the museum, 2020.

Consideration of the practice as to the circulation of valuable objects and of objects having reference to Irish industries, witness submitting that South Kensington should do much more in this direction, and that there should be exhibits of lace, textiles, &c., 2021. 2045-2052. 2082, 2083. 2100-2110. 2116-2129. 2151-2154—Question further considered as to the expediency of a museum of science and art being in touch with the trade and being the medium of technical instruction in brewing and other processes, 2021. 2076-2088. 2130-2132.

Importance of a larger grant as a means towards improvement and development of the National Library in Dublin; great deficiency of technical books through want of funds, 2024-2032. 2146-2150. 2159-2161—Special importance of the museum being administered in the interests of education and being in close touch with schools and other educational institutions of Ireland; suggestions hereon, 2033-2039. 2130-2132. 2146-2150.

Improvement if the museum were open in the evening till 9.30, 2042-2044—Great value of increased grants to the museum with a view to the development of the manufacturing industries of the country, 2133-2136.

Guide Books. Explanation as to certain guide books sold in the museum and as to the authority for their sale; belief that nothing is paid by the Department for the compilation of guides, *Sir J. Donnelly* 167-179.

Memorandum submitted, together with further explanations respecting the practice as to guide books and the arrangements under which they are allowed to be sold and the price fixed, *Sir J. Donnelly* 451-454.

H.

Hamilton Sale. Grounds for justifying certain purchases at the Hamilton sale, questioned by Sir Charles Robinson and by "Trush"; responsibility of the late Mr. Mundella for these purchases, which were approved by several art authorities, *Sir J. Donnelly* 48-58. 66-92—Approval of the course taken in obtaining a valuation from Mr. Whitehead, a broker who has for many years acted for the Department and for the British Museum, before the foregoing purchases were made, *ib.* 48. 51. 77-91—Explanation that it was never suggested that a so-called "Wolsey" chair really belonged to the Cardinal, *ib.* 54-57. 69-76.

Hillingford Armour Collection. Reference to certain evidence in this case as having no bearing whatever upon the system of purchase, *Second Rep.* xxii.

Hull, Professor, LL.D., F.R.S. (Digest of his Evidence)—Long official connection of witness with the Geological Survey of Great Britain and Ireland; he is intimately acquainted with the Jermyn-street Museum, 2970-2972.

Grounds for concurring in the proposition for the removal of the Jermyn-street Museum to South Kensington, provided that the museum be kept entire and all its special characteristics preserved, 2973-2981. 3020-3024—Unique character of the Jermyn-street collection; stratigraphical arrangement at Jermyn-street as compared with biographical arrangement at South Kensington, 2975. 2978. 3020-3024—Great usefulness of the Jermyn-street collection to students, 2982.

Argument as to the breach of trust involved if the valuable donations and bequests of objects to the Jermyn-street Museum by Sir Roderick Murchison and others were not

Hull, Professor, LL.D., F.R.S. (Digest of his Evidence)—continued.

not dealt with according to the expressed intentions of the donors; objection on this ground to their removal to South Kensington, 2983–2986. 3025–3047—Statement to the effect that the geological survey of the United Kingdom is far from being completed; expediency of the geological collection being kept with the geological map, 2987–2996.

Conduct of the survey from the offices in Jermyn-street; conclusion that the survey will still go with the offices if removed to South Kensington, 2997–3003. 3009–3011—Importance of the library in Jermyn-street accompanying the collection if removed, 3004–3008—Question as to the accommodation in Jermyn-street and the amount of rent, &c.; doubtful economy in removal to a site at South Kensington, 3012–3019. 3048, 3049.

I.

Indian Collection. Information promised respecting the Indian objects destroyed or damaged by the fire in the French annexe in 1885, *Sir J. Donnelly* 149.

Statement showing the amount of damage to the Indian Collection by the fire in 1885; injury chiefly to the Ajunta Cave drawings, many of which were destroyed, *Sir J. Donnelly*, p. 30 (460, 461).

Ireland. Very little use of the science branch at South Kensington to schools in Ireland; proposal hereon that collections of scientific apparatus be made available through the Dublin Museum to the Irish schools in the form of loans, *Graves* 1905–1915. 1920, 1921.

Reference to the large expenditure in South Kensington and Bethnal Green as in no way benefiting the people of Ireland, *Graves* 1963–1972.

Approval of an Irish board of management being in connection with the proposed Department of Agriculture and Industry for Ireland, *Graves* 1986. 1989. 2064–2066. 2155, 2156.

Consideration of the practice as to the circulation of valuable objects and of objects having reference to Irish industry, witness submitting that South Kensington should do much more in this direction, and that there should be exhibits of lace, textiles, &c., *Graves* 2021. 2045–2052. 2082, 2083. 2100–2110. 2116–2129. 2151–2154.

See also *Dublin Museum. Loans, &c.*

J.

JERMYN-STREET MUSEUM:

Evidence in support of the view that the Jermyn-street Museum with its very valuable science library, the whole of the geological survey, as well as the collections of metallurgy, pottery, &c., should be removed to South Kensington; ample space available, *Sir J. Donnelly* 530–533. 539–548—Reference to a proposal by the Treasury a few years ago for the removal of the Jermyn-street collections to South Kensington, *ib.* 533–536.

Suggestions upon the subject of the detailed distribution of the collections if removed from Jermyn-street, *Sir J. Donnelly* 546–548—Undertaking on witness part, at the instance of the Committee, to submit to the Lord President that the question of the removal of the Jermyn-street Museum be referred to the Departmental Committee now inquiring as to the space available at South Kensington, *ib.* 549, 550.

Witness submits the correspondence which passed between the Treasury and the Science and Art Department in March, April, and May, 1892, upon the question of the removal of the Geological Museum from Jermyn-street to South Kensington; reference to a memorandum in detail by Sir Archibald Geikie on the subject, *Sir J. Donnelly* 710 (pp. 49, 50).

Grounds for the conclusion that it is very desirable to remove the Geological Museum, with all its collections, from Jermyn-street to South Kensington; very little duplication at present, *Festing* 758–767. 889–910—Approval of the transfer to South Kensington of the technological collection, now in Jermyn-street, as well as of the geological collection, *ib.* 893–901.

Twofold character of the geological collections at Jermyn-street, witness advocating their removal to South Kensington; expediency as regards the geological survey that specimens be selected for exhibition with the maps, *Judd* 942–946. 951. 958–961. 969–972—Reference to the Ludlow collection of minerals at Jermyn-street, as being only partly exhibited, *ib.* 947, 948—Very complete scientific collection at South Kensington

JERMYN-STREET MUSEUM—continued.

Kensington if mining and metallurgy were fully developed, as by transfer of the Jermyn-street collection, *Judd* 967–970.

Grounds for concurring in the proposition for the removal of the Jermyn-street Museum to South Kensington, provided that the museum be kept entire and all its special characteristics preserved, *Hull* 2973–2981, 3020–3024—Unique character of the Jermyn-street collection: stratigraphical arrangement at Jermyn-street as compared with biographical arrangement at South Kensington, *ib.* 2975–2978, 3020–3024—Great usefulness of the Jermyn-street collection to students, *ib.* 2982.

Argument as to the breach of trust involved if the valuable donations and bequests of objects to the Jermyn-street Museum by Sir Roderick Murchison and others were not dealt with according to the expressed intentions of the donors, objection on this ground to their removal to South Kensington, *Hull* 2983–2986, 3025–3047—Question as to the accommodation in Jermyn-street and the amount of rent, &c., doubtful economy in removal to a site at South Kensington, *ib.* 3012–3019, 3048, 3049.

Consideration of the question of the removal of the Jermyn-street collections to South Kensington; relative advantages and disadvantages of transfer, witness being on the whole favourable thereto, under certain conditions, *Sir H. Rose* 3194–3199, 3239.

Correspondence in March, April, and May, 1892, between the Treasury and the Science and Art Department respecting the proposed transfer of the geological collections to South Kensington, *App.* 221.

Memorandum and letter by Sir A. Geikie in March and April, 1892, with reference to the proposed transfer, *App.* 222.

Unanimous recommendation of the Committee that the Geological Museum be no longer occupied for the same purposes as now, and that the collections there exhibited be removed to the west side of the Exhibition-road and made part of the science collections, *First Rep.* iii.

Summary by the Committee of the circumstances connected with the formation of the Museum of Practical Geology in Jermyn-street; valuable character of the collections, *Second Rep.* v.

Summary of expenditure under different heads in the year 1897–98; total of 5,019*l.*, *Second Rep.* xii.

Recommendation that all objects having an artistic merit should be transferred to South Kensington, and that the scope of the Geological Museum should be limited, *Second Rep.* xxxi, xxxii, xxxvii.

Expediency of the British pottery collection being transferred, some examples being left as specimens, *Second Rep.* xxxi, xxxii, xxxvii.

Recommended removal to the west side of the Exhibition-road, *Second Rep.* xxxvii.

See also Geological Survey. Libraries.

Johnstone, Professor (Dublin Museum). Explanation respecting the services and the remuneration of Professor Johnstone; strong testimony to his great ability as a teacher of botany and agriculture, his work at the museum and the College of Science being greatly underpaid, *Plunkett* 2165–2175, 2201—Valuable character of Professor Johnstone's exhibits of flax and of his lectures thereon; declining state, however, of this industry, *ib.* 2166–2168, 2199–2205.

Grounds for the suggestion that Professor Johnstone should have a total remuneration of from 500*l.* to 600*l.* a year, instead of 300*l.*, *Plunkett* 2169–2175.

Judd, Professor J. W., C.B., F.R.S. (Digest of his Evidence). Long period for which witness has been conversant with the science collections at South Kensington, and previously with the Jermyn-street collections; he is now Chairman of the Committee of Advice to the Science Museum as regards purchases, 931–933—Conclusion, as Dean of the College of Science, that the work of the college could not possibly be carried on without the collections in the museum, 934.

Expediency of an extension of the museum collections in several directions if adequate space can be found, 934*–936—Belief that with due care in making purchases a proper distinction can be drawn between a scientific and an industrial museum, 937.

Concurrence of the staff of the College of Science in the view that the Science Library, the Science Laboratory, and the Science Museum should be in the closest connection with each other and should be on the same side of the road, either east or west, 938–941, 971, 972—Twofold character of the geological collection at Jermyn-street, witness advocating their removal to South Kensington; expediency as regards the geological survey that specimens be selected for exhibition with the maps, 942–946, 951, 958–961, 969–972.

Report, 1898—*continued*.

Judd, Professor J. W., C.B., F.R.S. (Digest of his Evidence)—continued.

Great inconvenience through part of the science library being still retained at Jermyn-street; importance of its transfer to South Kensington, 945, 946, 957—Reference to the Ludlow collection of minerals at Jermyn-street as being only partly exhibited, 947, 948—Question considered as to the degree of value to be attached to a special collection illustrating British stratigraphy, 949–952.

Summary of the action of the Committee of Advice as to purchases, the director of the museum putting the matter before the secretary, who decides upon each case, 953, 954, 994–1006—Liberal acquisition of working models and simple models since witness has been in charge of the collection, 955, 956.

Very limited space now available in Jermyn-street for the geological survey, 958–961—Large additional space required on the west side of Exhibition-road if the geological collection under witness is to be properly developed, 962, 963—Constant use of scientific instruments and apparatus in illustration of the lectures, 964.

Importance of the geological catalogues being kept up to date, though this is a very difficult matter, 965, 966—Very complete scientific collection at South Kensington if mining and metallurgy were fully developed, as by transfer of the Jermyn-street collection, 967–970.

Conclusion that injury to works of art need not be apprehended from the fumes from the chemical laboratory, especially if the art buildings are not on the same side of the road, 973–980—Circumstance of witness not receiving any fees as member of the Committee of Advice as to purchases, 981–986.

Information as to the working hours of students; great want of some accommodation for them, 987–993—Different catalogues available for teachers throughout the country, every attention and facility being given to those teachers who visit the museum for purposes of study, 1007–1011.

L.

Labels. Difficulty in describing intricate machines or models by means of labels, *Festing* 868—Dissatisfaction of witness with the labelling as being antiquated, whilst the prices marked on the labels are very misleading, *Skinner* 1630–1646—Approval of fuller information on the labels, so that catalogues would be less necessary, *ib.* 1650–1652.

Degree of advantage in showing by means of labels that special objects have been exhibited in important centres, *Skinner* 1687–1697—Approval of master labels (in addition to the labels attached to objects) being attached to the museum cases and also of similar labels at the entrances to the galleries, *ib.* 1747–1757.

Great importance attached by the Committee to good descriptive labels, which should be drawn up with the utmost regard for accuracy, *Second Rep.* xviii, xix.

Laboratories (South Kensington). Reference to the fumes from the chemical laboratory as being rapidly dispersed, so that they are not injurious to the art collections, *Festing* 774, 807–813—Conclusion that injury to works of art need not be apprehended from the fumes from the chemical laboratory, especially if the art buildings are not on the same side of the road, *Judd* 973–980—Grounds for the conclusion that the fumes from the chemical laboratory are more or less objectionable, *Sir N. Lockyer* 1182–1189.

Conclusion, as the result of great experience in the construction and working of chemical and physical laboratories, that in view of the risk from fire, it would be most unwise that such laboratories should be in close proximity to the art treasures in South Kensington, *Sir H. Roscoe* 3128–3136, 3222–3227, 3187.

Strong objection to the location of a physical or chemical laboratory on the east side of the Exhibition-road, in view of the traffic and the vibration arising therefrom, and from electric tramways or railways, *Sir H. Roscoe* 3136, 3215–3221—Decided approval of some plans drawn up by the Office of Works for laboratories on the west side, *ib.* 3139–3143, 3175–3183, 3230–3232.

Danger from the laboratory fumes to works of art, even if there were very tall chimneys, unless these be some distance away from the art side of the buildings, *Sir H. Roscoe* 3187, 3210–3214.

See also *London University*.

Lantern Slides. Great advantage if the large number of lantern slides at South Kensington were out on circulation, *Wallis* 1244–1246.

Lectures. Constant use of scientific instruments and apparatus in illustration of the lectures in connection with the Science Museum at South Kensington, *Judd* 964—Practice as to lectures by witness at Birmingham outside the museum in connection with

Report, 1898—*continued.**Lectures*—continued.

with the loan collection; non-removal of any of the loan objects on these occasions, *Wallis* 1238–1243, 1294–1298, 1400.

Expediency of some restriction as regards the number of people attending lectures in the museums, *Wallis* 1392–1399—Suggestions on the subject of special lecturers from South Kensington accompanying loan collections, *ib.* 1401–1408.

Decided advantage if lecturers were sent to local museums with the objects circulated; prospect of arrangements to this end being soon carried out in witness' department, some addition to the staff being necessary, *Skinner* 1716–1746—Illustration in the case of Bethnal Green Museum of the importance of lectures in connection with local industries, *ib.* 1723–1730, 1736.

Exception taken to certain evidence as to the unpopularity of lectures and the difficulty of getting the public to attend; objection in Dublin to attend on Sundays, *Graves* 2014–2019, 2145.

Conclusion of the Committee that the collections at South Kensington would be more highly appreciated and rendered of greater value to the community if explanatory lectures were given, *Second Rep.* xxxv.

See also *Loans, &c.*

Lehfeldt, M. A. Belief that no report about Mr. Lehfeldt has ever passed through the registry at South Kensington, *Sir J. Donnelly* 152–156—Information respecting the number of marks obtained in German and other foreign languages by Mr. Lehfeldt and other candidates examined at the same time, *Sir J. Donnelly* 157–163; *App.* 214.

Leicester. Instance, in the case of Leicester, of the expediency of not limiting the loan collection to the main industry of the place, *Skinner* 1776–1781, 1819–1822.

Libraries. Belief that the present keeper of the Art Library at South Kensington (Mr. Palmer) has had more than ten years' service, *Sir J. Donnelly* 650–654.

Satisfactory condition of the Science Library, which is on the east side of the road; improvements if it and other science collections were on the west side, *Frosting* 750–755, 803–809—Decided advantage if the portion of the Geological Library retained at Jermyn-street were transferred to South Kensington, *ib.* 902–910.

Great inconvenience through part of the Science Library being still retained at Jermyn-street; importance of its transfer to South Kensington, *Judd* 945, 956, 957—Conclusion that the transfer of the Science Library to the other side of the road has long been contemplated, *Sir N. Lockyer* 1210.

Facility with which witness can obtain books from the Art Library, *Skinner* 1626–1629—Importance of the library in Jermyn-street accompanying the collection if removed, *Hull* 3004–3008.

Reference by the Committee to the Art Library as greatly cramped from want of room for storage of books, *Second Rep.* vii.

Total of more than 80,000 volumes in the Art Library, bought at a cost of 85,000*l.*, exclusive of prints, drawings, photographs, &c., *Second Rep.* xv—Circulation of between 2,000 and 3,000 books belonging to the Art Library, *ib.*

Review of the administration of the Art Library; conclusion that the urgent requirements of the library are a separate staff, a special entrance examination, and responsibility of the keeper, suggestions being made for general improvements, *Second Rep.* xxiii–xxvi—Absolute necessity of having the best available specialist as keeper, *ib.* xxvi.

See also *Buildings. Catalogues. Purchases.*

LOANS AND SYSTEM OF CIRCULATION:

1. *Official Explanations and Suggestions on various points.*
2. *Exhibition Cases, and Custody of Objects on Loan: Question of their greater accessibility.*
3. *Conclusions and Recommendations of the Committee.*

1. *Official Explanations and Suggestions on various points:*

Considerable increase in 1897 as compared with 1895 in the number of objects on loan to provincial museums, &c., *Sir J. Donnelly* 4–6—Information respecting certain objects injured or lost when on loan from or to the museum, it being stated that a watch was stolen; rule not to give compensation when articles lent to the museum are damaged, *ib.* 187–197.

Suggestions on the subject of a small descriptive catalogue accompanying each important loan collection, *Wallis* 1247–1249, 1369–1370.—Entire concurrence in Mr. Purdon Clarke's proposals for the development of the Circulation Department at South Kensington, *ib.* 1250, 1251.

Report, 1898—*continued*.

LOANS AND SYSTEM OF CIRCULATION—continued.

1. *Official Explanations and Suggestions on various points*—continued.

Room for improvement as regards the character of the collections lent to local museums: primary object that each collection should have a distinct bearing on the industries of the locality, *Wallis* 1252–1272. 1386–1391.—Statement as to the loan collections at Birmingham and other large towns having reference mainly to general art, the special collections of the local museums having a more direct reference to the industries of the place, *ib.* 1271–1279—Greater benefit derived by the more important local museums than by the smaller ones from the central circulation department, *ib.* 1348–1351.

Opinion that whilst the larger proportion of objects in the department should be circulated, those should be exempted which are unique and of great value, *Skinner* 1607–1609—Approval of the museum directors deciding upon the objects to be circulated and of the more valuable objects being sent to important places like Birmingham and Nottingham but not to other places indiscriminately, *ib.* 1676–1686. 1698.

Increasing desire on the part of local museums for the loan of objects of educational value; steps taken at South Kensington to comply with local demands and to circulate exhibits most suitable for the industrial wants of each locality, attractive objects being also sent, *Skinner* 1704–1712. 1773–1786—Instances of applications from temporary industrial exhibitions; advantage in complying therewith, *ib.* 1713–1715.

Adoption of many of the suggestions made in the Paper put in by Mr. Purdon Clarke in his evidence last Session respecting circulation, *Skinner* 1823–1825—Information as to the enlargement in the variety of collections sent to schools of art, since Sir John Donnelly's Paper of October, 1896; numerous processes sent out, besides a large number of books, lantern slides, &c., *ib.* 1826–1840.

Obstacles at present to sending objects of art of an educational character to such institutions as university colleges, *Skinner* 1841–1847—Loan of collections to some schools of art on condition that the public shall be freely admitted to see them, *ib.* 1847, 1848. 1853–1855.

Memorandum by Sir John Donnelly, dated October 1896, upon the subject of circulation; various explanations on the subject, *App.* 201–205.

2. *Exhibition Cases, and Custody of Objects on Loan; Question of their greater accessibility*:

Inconvenience at times through the cases on loan to Birmingham being locked, the objects not being accessible to students or to lecturers; suggested relaxation of existing restrictions on this point, *Wallis* 1234–1236. 1382–1385. 1242, 1243—Suggestions and explanations on the subject of the objects in loan cases being made accessible to the officials of the museums in whose custody they are; also, to masters of art schools, *ib.* 1280–1293. 1331, 1332. 1339–1342. 1382–1385—Statement on the subject of the custody of objects lent to the Birmingham Museum and the question of insurance, *ib.* 1363–1368.

Consideration of the practice as to the custody of objects when circulated to provincial schools; opinion that the art master of each school should have the same facilities as the director of the museum as to the handling of the objects, *Sparkes* 1436–1449—Discretion necessary as to the circulation and handling of objects; those which are priceless should not be lent, *ib.* 1477–1479.

3. *Conclusions and Recommendations of the Committee*:

Reference to the want of increased room for circulation purposes, the department being, moreover, increasing rapidly, *Second Rep.* vii.

Summary by the Committee respecting the labour and heavy expenditure in the working of the Circulation Department, *Second Rep.* x.

Summary of the practice as to loans to local museums and schools of science and art; different classes of objects circulated, *Second Rep.* xiv, xv—Total of 886 collections sent out in the years 1881–95; *ib.* xv—Circulation, as a rule, of a quarter of the whole collection, *ib.*

Concurrence of evidence as to the necessity of further purchases if the demands for loans are to be complied with, *Second Rep.* xv, xvi—Influential evidence as to the importance of a very full development of the system of circulation, *ib.*

Conclusions as to the expediency of a large proportion of the collection remaining on permanent exhibition, *Second Rep.* xv, xvi—Great care necessary in deciding upon loans, it being essential that the unique and priceless treasures at South Kensington should not be sent on circulation, *ib.* xvi, xvii—Expediency of the special industrial and artistic requirements of a district being met as far as possible, *ib.*

Several respects in which great progress has recently been made in the administration of the loan department; large increase anticipated in the demands for loans, *Second Rep.* xvii, xviii.

LOANS AND SYSTEM OF CIRCULATION—continued3. *Conclusions and Recommendations of the Committee*—continued

Considerable room for an increased circulation of scientific objects, suggestions hereon, *Second Rep.* xxvii.

Suggestions as to the insurance of objects lent to the museum and as to compensation being made to the lenders in the event of breakage or injury, *Second Rep.* xxviii.

See also *Birmingham Museum*. *Expenditure*. *Ireland*. *Lectures*.
Leicester Libraries. *Staff*. *Wales*.

Lobb, John. (Digest of his Evidence.)—Lengthened residence of witness in Bethnal Green, whilst he has been associated with the Bethnal Green Museum since its inception; several public positions filled by him, 2322–2327.

General understanding in Bethnal Green before the establishment of the Museum, that it was to include a library and a school of science and art, 2328, 2329—Belief that the site was provided by the inhabitants of the East End, 2330, 2331—Very little utility of the museum, in its present form, as a source of instruction, on account of there being no library and no provision for the teaching of science and art, strong complaint on this score, 2332–2338, 2350, 2367, 2395.

Want of a good lending library, of a hall for lectures, and of class-rooms for instruction in the various branches of technical knowledge; representations in detail on these points, 2340 *et seq.*—Very scanty results from the exhibitions held in the museum; suggestions for securing a better attendance of the working classes (children as well as bread-winners), and for special lectures and instruction in boat riveting, furniture manufacture, and other industries of the district, 2346–2354, 2404–2412, 2443–2456, 2488–2511.

Great boon if there were a library adjacent to the museum, there being a good site available; obstacles to a free library, supported out of the rates, the ratepayers comprising an exceptionally poor population, 2355–2363, 2415–2430, 2461–2466, 2476–2484—Advantage if classes were provided by the London Technical Educational Board, 2401–2403—General dissatisfaction in the district with the present operation of the museum and the non-fulfilment of the promises at first held out, 2413, 2414, 2471–2476—Inability of witness to comprehend how the money has been spent if in the last ten years so much as 6,800*l.* has been voted for furniture, &c., 2431–2442.

Approval of a local advisory committee with a view to a better selection of useful objects for the museum, 2467–2470—Further statement as to the attendance of children and workmen and as to the little real interest taken in the museum, many of the objects being quite unsuitable for the district, 2488–2511.

Lockyer, Sir Norman. (Digest of his Evidence.)—Functions of witness at South Kensington as Professor of Astronomical Physics and in other capacities; part taken by him in 1876 in the organisation of the scientific collections and loan collection, 1012–1023.

Arrangement between the Royal Commissions of 1851 and the Government in 1856, whereby the latter obtained for 60,000*l.* the site upon which the South Kensington Museum now stands, 1024, 1025—Statement as to the Reports of the Royal Commissioners not being now presented to Parliament, 1026–1029—Summary of the proposals of the Duke of Devonshire's Commission of 1874 for the establishment of a science museum, &c.; 1030–1039.

Offer made by the Royal Commission of 1851 to Government in 1876 to provide the land required for a science museum, and to put up the building, which was to cost 100,000*l.*; further offer in 1888, which was accepted, to give four and a-half acres of land at one-third its value on which to erect a science museum, 1031–1039.

Great importance attached by the Duke of Devonshire's Commission to a comprehensive science museum, 1040—Views of witness as to the entire insufficiency of the present science collection and as to the development required in various directions; necessity, for this purpose, of much larger accommodation, 1040–1047—Very deficient facilities now available for the teaching of pure and applied science, 1041–1044, 1047, 1048.

Respects in which a museum is in itself a much better education for a student than attendance at lectures, 1049, 1050—Explanations in connection with plans prepared by witness showing the science exhibition space in museums and laboratories abroad as compared with the space to be occupied on the east of the Exhibition-road, 1050–1068, 1071–1073, 1194–1209—Enormous importance nationally of a great development of technical and scientific education in order that this country may hold her own in industrial competition with Germany and other foreign countries, 1069.

Comment upon the large space left for the extension of the Natural History Museum as compared with the pressing needs and the small available space for an extension of the science museum and of laboratories and apparatus, 1074, 1083—Considerable period for which the needs of the several science departments might be met if the total and

Report, 1898—*continued*.

Lockyer, Sir Norman. (Digest of his Evidence)—*continued*.

and a-half acres sold to the Government by the Commissioners of 1851 were available for the purpose: small portion proposed to be used in the first instance, 1084–1094. 1110–1112—Distinct condition of the sale that the land should be permanently used for purposes connected with science and with the industrial and mechanical arts; plan submitted hereon, 1084–1096. 1113–1117. 1156–1157.

Decided approval of the plans prepared by Sir John Taylor, these carrying out all the suggestions made by the professors and providing for the physical and chemical laboratories, the astronomical department, and the science collections generally on the west side of the road; that is, over a lengthened period, 1085. 1092. 1097–1112—Strong views of witness as to the claim of science not only to the user of the four and a-half acres sold by the Commissioners of 1851 but to the gradual provision by Government of the necessary buildings concentrated on the west side of the road; decided priority of claim to that of art for which everything has already been done, 1113–1127.

Consideration of the practice hitherto in procuring and arranging objects for the Science Museum, witness submitting suggestions for an amended system of purchase and approving of the course pursued in the case of the British Museum, 1128–1145—Advantage if the professor of each subject acted as director of that branch in the Science Museum and were responsible for the purchase of objects and apparatus; increased cost involved, 1135–1145. 1158–1168.

Information respecting polytechnics and laboratories in Switzerland and other foreign countries in reference to the provision of apparatus for teaching purposes, as compared with the provision at South Kensington, 1147–1150. 1166. 1201–1209—Suggestions on the subject of weeding out antiquated apparatus; limited extent to which advisable, 1151–1155.

Details on the subject of art and fine art, and of science, respectively; explanations respecting the much closer connection between the College of Science and the Science Museum than between the former and the South Kensington Department, 1169–1181—Grounds for the conclusion that the fumes from the chemical laboratory are more or less objectionable, 1182–1189—Danger of vibration from the road as regards astronomical apparatus, 1190–1193.

Conclusion that the transfer of the Science Library to the other side of the road has long been contemplated, 1210—Necessity, in course of time, of the College of Science being moved to the other side, 1211–1214—Explanation as to the building accommodation required in witness' special branch; sufficiency of the present Observatory, whilst its removal from the vicinity of the laboratories would be most objectionable, 1217–1221.

London University. Strong representation on the part of the University of London as to the want of laboratory accommodation for the increasingly numerous candidates in science and medicine; want also of a proper place for the examination of students, *Sir H. Roseoe* 3150–3158. 3188—Financial claim of the University, in respect of the fees received, to full consideration of the Government, *ib.* 3153–3156. 3188–3190. 3236–3238.

Memorandum by Mr. F. Victor Dickins, Registrar, upon the question of providing additional laboratory and other accommodation for the examinations of the University, *App.* 224, 225.

Ludlow Collection. See *Jermyn-street Museum*.

M.

Maps. Advantage if there were maps showing the geographical distribution of different forms of art, *Skinner* 1647–1649.

Models. Approval generally of models being kept up to date, though this necessitates much expense; recognition of this principle as much as possible, *Festing* 832–860—Liberal acquisition of working models and simple models since witness has been in charge of the collection, *Judd* 955, 956.

Molinari Gateway. Reply to the attack made by Sir Charles Robinson upon the purchase of the Molinari Gateway by witness on behalf of the department; grounds for justifying this purchase, which was sanctioned by Lord Carlingford, then Lord President, *Armstrong* 59, 60—Inability of witness to trace a certain report on the Molinari Gateway which was sent to Sir Phillip Owen, *Sir J. Donnelly* 150, 151.

Summary by the Committee to the effect that parts of the gateway are notoriously spurious, *Second Rep.* xxii.

Museums Association. Very imperfect representation of the art museums of this country upon the Museums Association, *Wallis* 1343–1347.

N.

National Engraved Portraits. Comment upon the catalogue of National Engraved Portraits as having no index, as being grossly inaccurate, and as being full of absurdities, and excessively costly, *Second Rep.* xviii. xxv, xxvi.

Naval Models. Information respecting the collection of naval models and the removal to Greenwich of those belonging to the Admiralty, *Festing* 871–878.

Nokes, George. (Digest of his Evidence.)—Long residence of witness in Bethnal Green, his place of business being close to the museum, 2634–2640.

General feeling in the district that the museum has no real educational value, there being very little interest taken in it, except as a promenade, 2641–2645, 2654–2658, 2665–2667, 2672, 2673—Special claim to the provision of a library and lecture hall and of instruction in certain branches of science and art; undertaking given by the Education Department to this effect before the museum was established, 2646–2653, 2675–2679.

Suggestions with a view to making the museum attractive to the masses, as by concerts and military music, witness strongly approving also of a system of lectures on industrial art, together with oral guides in constant attendance, 2659–2671—Great value attached to the free library in Bethnal Green; immense advantage if it were removed to a better site and were in close and direct connection with the museum, 2680–2705—Difficulty in obtaining a library rate, the rates generally being already very onerous, 2689–2691.

[Second Examination.]—Entire concurrence in the view that Bethnal Green Museum is capable of being made most useful in the district, and that the removal of the free library to the vacant space north of the museum would be a great advantage, 3050–3055, 3077, 3089, 3090—Suggestions on the subject of administration by a local representative committee; opinion that with the present grant of £9000 a year much more might be accomplished under local management, 3056–3068.

Explanation as to witness having opposed the adoption of the Public Libraries Act in Bethnal Green, in view of the existing rates being very high, 3069–3077—Great want of a lecture hall and library, as originally contemplated; inadequacy of a penny library rate to provide what is required in these directions, 3080–3088.

O.

Observatory. Belief that there is no disadvantage in Sir Norman Lockyer's Observatory, being still located on its present site, *Sir J. Donnelly* 551–556.

Explanation as to the building accommodation required in witness' special branch; sufficiency of the present Observatory, whilst its removal from the vicinity of the laboratories would be most objectionable, *Sir N. Lockyer* 1217–1221.

Obsolete Objects. Suggestions on the subject of weeding out antiquated apparatus; limited extent to which advisable, *Sir N. Lockyer* 1151–1155—Disadvantage in the elimination of obsolete objects, as in the Dublin Museum, resting with a committee of selection, *Plunkett* 2207.

P.

Photographs. Statement as to the cost of superintendence and custody of photographic negatives, &c.; amended arrangement since 1891, *Sir J. Donnelly* 467.

Total of about 100,000 photographs in the Art Library, which would be invaluable for reference if there were a proper catalogue, *Second Rep.* xxv.

Pictures. Concurrence in the view that pictures are hardly in place in an industrial museum, though they are much in demand for circulation, *Skeeler* 1653–1658, 1671–1677.

Unsatisfactory control of the collection of pictures at South Kensington; expediency of dual responsibility being discontinued, *Second Rep.* xxiii.

See also *Water Colours*.

Pict Collection. Information respecting the Pict Collection, which was purchased with the approval of Sir Edward Poynter; inaccuracy of statement in the "Pall Mall Gazette" that Mr. Soden Smith declined to have the collection catalogued, *Sir J. Donnelly* 461–463.

Plans and Buildings. See *Buildings*.

Report, 1898—*continued.*

Plunkett, Lieutenant-Colonel G. T., M.R.I.A., M.R.A.S. (late R.E.). (Digest of his Evidence.)—Personal approval of the Dublin Museum being open on Sundays for lectures; division of public opinion on the subject, so that the change had better not be made at present, 2162—2164—Explanation respecting the services and the remuneration of Professor Johnstone; strong testimony to his great ability as a teacher of botany and agriculture, his work at the museum and the College of Science being greatly underpaid, 2165—2175. 2201.

Valuable character of Professor Johnstone's exhibits of flax and of his lectures thereon; declining state, however, of this industry, 2166—2168. 2199—2205—Grounds for the suggestion that Professor Johnstone should have a total enumeration of from 500*l.* to 600*l.* a year (instead of 300*l.*); 2169—2175.

Concurrence with Mr. Graves that lecture-rooms, laboratories, and class-rooms for science (as in the new College of Science) should be close to the museum; necessary purchase of land for the required site, 2176—2181—Exceptions taken to Mr. Graves' suggestions on the subject of living guides; preference for the present plan of admitting, by ticket, to occasional lectures when the museum is closed to the general public, 2181—2188.

Dissent from Mr. Graves as to the extent to which the museum is used by the working classes; very small number of the general public who pass through it as being a "short cut," it being really shorter to go outside, 2189—2194—Information as to the great educational value of some of the collections and exhibits in connection with agriculture as well as with furniture, china, plate, wood-carving, and other industries, 2194—2196.

Limited value attached to machinery and models of factories, as with reference to brewing or the flax industry, 2194. 2200—2207—Entire disagreement with Mr. Graves' suggestions for the formation of committees of selection and circulation, 2196—2198. 2209.

Large number of objects received on permanent loan from South Kensington; great advantage of the constant assistance received from the Department, which would probably be lost if the museum were entirely separated and were under an Irish Board, 2207—2209. 2215. 2217, 2218—Disadvantage in the elimination of obsolete objects resting with a committee of selection, 2207.

Entire insufficiency of the grant for the National Library, though it has been recently increased from 1,000*l.* to 1,300*l.*; 2209—2211—Contemplated extension of the hours twice a week till 10 o'clock; advantage also of opening on Sunday evening, 2211—2213.

Illustration of the power of initiation in the Board of Visitors, 2213—Assistance given by the museum to other museums in Ireland in the shape of loans, 2213, 2214—Constant use of the museum by students in the adjacent School of Art, 2215—2217.

Police. Conclusion that the police force cannot be reduced at present, it being in fact doubtful whether the night patrol is adequate, especially in the western galleries, *Second Rep.* xxix.

Pottery. Distinct objects of the pottery collections at Jermyn-street and at South Kensington; approval of the former being transferred to the art side of South Kensington, *Festing* 762—767. 889—892—See also *Jermyn Street Museum.* *Schools of Art.*

Prints. Suggestion by the Committee that duplicate prints might be disposed of as gifts to provincial museums and schools, *Second Rep.* xxiv—Strong comments upon the collection of prints, some of which are perfectly useless in an art library, *ib.* xxv.

Provincial Towns. See *Birmingham Museum.* *Loans, &c.*

PURCHASES (SOUTH KENSINGTON):

1. *Official Representations on several Points.*
2. *Conclusions and Recommendations of the Committee.*

1. Official Representations, on several Points :

Absence of power in the Director of Art to make purchases for South Kensington up to 20*l.*, though the Director of the Museum has such power, *Sir J. Donnelly* 27—41—Statement as to the unexpended balance of the sum provided for purchases not being now surrendered at the end of the financial year, *ib.* 42—43—Normal character of a certain change in the procedure in connection with the right of the museum staff to make purchases up to 20*l.*, *ib.* 124—127.

Explanation with further reference to the functions exercised by the Director of Art and the Director of the Museum, respectively, in respect of purchases: clear power now vested in the latter to make purchases without necessarily consulting the former, *Sir J. Donnelly* 133—148.

Action of a standing Committee of Advice in respect of purchases for the Science Museum, *Festing* 775—Explanation as to the action generally of witness in the matter

PURCHASES (SOUTH KENSINGTON)—continued.

1. *Official Representations on several Points*—continued.

matter of purchases for the Science Museum, and as to the functions exercised by the two keepers in his department; less technical character of the museum than of the Paris Collection of Arts et Metiers, *Festing* 847–865. 869, 870, 879–888.

Witness, who has been conversant with the science collections at South Kensington and previously with the Jermyn-street collections for many years, is now Chairman of the Committee of Advice to the Science Museum as regards purchases. *Third Rep.* 931–933—Belief that with due care in making purchases a proper distinction can be drawn between a scientific and an industrial museum, *ib.* 937—Summary of the action of the Committee of Advice as to purchases for the Science Museum, the Director of the Museum putting the matter before the Secretary, who decides upon each case, *ib.* 953, 954. 994–1006—Circumstance of witness not receiving any fees as member of the Committee of Advice as to purchases, *ib.* 981–986.

Consideration of the practice hitherto in procuring and arranging objects for the Science Museum, witness submitting suggestions for an amended system of purchase and approving of the course pursued in the case of the British Museum, *See N. Looker* 1128–1145—Advantage if the professor of each subject acted as director of that branch in the Science Museum and were responsible for the purchase of objects and apparatus; increased cost involved, *ib.* 1135–1145. 1158–1168.

Practice as to purchases for the Art Museum, recommendations being made by witness and the departmental officers under him, *Skinner* 1572–1577.

2. *Conclusions and Recommendations of the Committee*

Review by the Committee of the general arrangement as to purchases for the Art Museum and Library; due precautions taken to prevent competition with other departments, *Second Rep.* xiii—Functions, respectively, of the Director of the Museum and the Director of Art in connection with purchases, conclusion that the Director of the Art Museum should have the sole responsibility, *ib.* xiii, xiv, xxi—Conclusion that the Director of the Art Museum should have the sole responsibility for purchases, *ib.* xiii, xxi—List of referees appointed to act as advisers; recommendation that the art referees should not be continued, *ib.* xiii, xiv, xxi.

Annual cost of purchases for the Art Museum since 1885, *Second Rep.* xiv—Summary of the practice as to purchases for the Science Museum and Library, *ib.*

Approval of the new arrangement of the Museum Vote as regards the power of expending the grant for purchases upon either library, pictures, reproductions, &c., *Second Rep.* xix.

Summary of instances in which excessive prices have been paid for objects, *Second Rep.* xxi, xxii—Conclusion as to there having been several purchases of spurious objects, *ib.* xxii.

Recommendation that the purchasing for the Art Library should be in the hands of the keeper, and that no outside amateur should act as broker, *Second Rep.* xxiv.

Unimportance of the mistakes made as compared with the magnitude and value of the collection, *Second Rep.* xxxv.

Expediency of a larger discretion as to purchases being given to the Director of the Art Museum and to the Director of the Science Museum, *Second Rep.* xxxvi.

Recommendation that, having regard to the annually increasing demand made by local museums and schools of art on the central collection for circulation, it is desirable that the Parliamentary grant for purchases be increased, *Second Rep.* xxxvii.

See also Birmingham Museum. Loans, &c. Molinari Gateway. Pet Collection.

R.

Raphael Cartoons (South Kensington). Comment upon the deficient regulations for the custody of the Raphael Cartoons, *Second Rep.* xxiii.

Referees (Purchases). Summary showing the art referees appointed to act as advisers in connection with purchases; limited extent to which consulted, *Second Rep.* xiii, xiv—Grounds for the conclusion that the art referees should not be continued, *ib.* xxi.

Reproductions. Entire approval of restorations or new work being distinguished by some mark, from the original parts, *Armstrong* 61–65—Practice in circulating copies or reproductions, a description being given of the original *Skinner* 1699. 1703.

Large increase of the resources of the museum by means of reproductions; great value attached thereto, *Second Rep.* xv.

Report, 1898—*continued.*

Resident Officers. Statement as to the limited space to be acquired by removal of the official residences and transfer of staff to Whitehall, *Sir J. Donnelly* 489–494. 507–509—Decided opinion that some official residences should be provided; four such residences at present, this number being expedient as a minimum, *ib.* 523–527. 570–572.

Recommendation by the Committee that provision be made for the residence of the principal officials in the immediate neighbourhood of the museum, *Second Rep.* xxxvii.

Roberts, Principal. (Digest of his Evidence.)—Special opportunities of witness for becoming conversant with the educational needs of Welshmen; he is now principal of University College, Aberystwyth, 2863–2869.

Statements in detail as to the great need of several additions to Aberystwyth College, with a view to its greater educational usefulness, more especially in the training of the students for secondary and elementary teacherships, 2870 *et seq.*—Suggestions on the subject of the operation and the contents of museums as auxiliaries to the several Welsh colleges; different classes of objects desirable in each collection, 2870 *et seq.*

Important work already being done by the College of Aberystwyth in the form of agricultural extension lectures and in various other directions, witness representing the want of several additions to the College Museum, so that the best teaching appliances may be available, 2873. 2892 *et seq.*—Difficulty on the score of funds in obtaining the required objects for the museum; valuable contributions of fine art and other collections from private sources, aid from Government in this direction being much needed, 2876–2879. 2925–2933.

Consideration of the question of a central museum for Wales and of the difficulty as to site; recommendations in this connection for the establishment and working of a museum in each collegiate centre, 2880–2893. 2917, 2918—Undue stringency of the present regulations of the Science and Art Department as to loans of objects and exhibits to Aberystwyth College Museum; doubt as to loans having been made to other Welsh towns, 2882, 2883. 2894–2913.

Large number of students at the college, the total having increased from 157 to 407 in the last seven years, 2884–2886. 2934—Excellent work being done by the secondary and county schools and by the elementary schools; advantage as regards these, if museum objects could be circulated from Aberystwyth and lectured upon at the schools, 2887–2893—Degree of connection between the School of Art at Aberystwyth and the college; belief that the former has had the advantage of loans from South Kensington, 2919–2924.

Rooms or Galleries. Exceptions taken to numerous small exhibition rooms, instead of the system of galleries round courts, *Sir J. Donnelly* 557–564.

Opinion that the rooms in the Art Museum should have both top-lights and side-lights, *Skinner* 1592–1594—Advantage of rooms being constructed and fitted up as reproductions of different periods and styles; encouragement thereby to home manufacture, *ib.* 1787–1802.

Roscoe, Sir Henry, F.R.S. (Digest of his Evidence.)—Several important positions held by witness in connection with science, technical instruction, and with educational matters generally; he is officially cognisant of the whole of the property of the Royal Commissioners of 1851; 3116–3119.

Explanation as regards the conveyance of the plot of land south of the Imperial Institute-road from the Royal Commissioners to the Commissioners of Works, in March 1890, that it was expressly stipulated that the site should be permanently used for purposes connected with science or the arts, 3120–3123. 3147–3149—Claim on the part of the Commissioners to a return of the site in question, if not intended to be used by Government for the purposes stipulated; that is, upon repayment to Government of the sum received for the land in 1890 (70,000*l.*), 3123–3125—Entire disconnection of witness with the South Kensington Museum, 3126, 3127.

Great experience of witness in the construction and working of chemical and physical laboratories; conclusion that in view of the risk from fire it would be most unwise that such laboratories should be in close proximity to the art treasures at South Kensington, 3128–3136. 3187. 3222–3227—Strong objection to the location of a physical or chemical laboratory on the east side of the Exhibition-road, in view of the traffic and the vibration arising therefrom, and from electric tramways or railways, 3136. 3215–3221.

Decided approval of some plans drawn up by the Office of Works for laboratories on the west side, 3139–3143. 3175–3183. 3230–3232—Special importance attached on national grounds to a large extension of science instruction in this country and to separate and sufficient accommodation for laboratories, &c., at South Kensington, without their being mixed up with art galleries, 3144–3167. 3175–3187. 3200, 3201.

Strong representation on the part of the University of London as to the want of laboratory accommodation for the increasingly numerous candidates in science and medicine;

Roscoe, Sir Henry, F.R.S. (Digest of his Evidence)—*continued.*

medicine; want also of a proper place for the examination of students 3150-3158. 3188—Financial claim of the university in respect of the fees received, to full consideration from the Government, 3153-3156. 3188-3190. 3236-3238

Views of the Royal Society as to the great importance of the required expansion of science buildings at South Kensington being provided on the west side of Exhibition-road, 3158*-3162. 3167—Reference to the proposal for placing art and science together on the east side, as entirely novel, and as most objectionable, 3163-3167. 3191-3193.

Further information in connection with the land owned by the Commissioners of 1851, and the sale of a certain plot to Government in 1890 on certain conditions which were distinctly understood at the time, 3168-3174—Summary of the buildings and departments, representing art and science, respectively, which should be placed on separate sides of the Exhibition-road, as being the natural boundary between the two, 3175-3186. 3191-3193.

Danger from the laboratory fumes to works of art even if there were very tall chimneys, unless these be some distance away from the art side of the buildings, 3187. 3210-3214—Suggestions for making the science apparatus more useful to the country at large; difficulty, however, as to their circulation, 3189. 3233-3235

Consideration of the question of the removal of the Jermyn-street collections to South Kensington; relative advantages and disadvantages of transfer, witness being on the whole favourable thereto, under certain conditions, 3194. 3199. 3239—Entire dissent from any proposals of the Office of Works for retaining parts of the Science Museum alongside the art buildings; necessity of the leading authorities on science being consulted in the matter, 3202-3209. 3230-3232.

Plenty of room for expansion of science buildings on the west side, but not on the east, economy (of a very unwise kind) being the only motive for placing them on the latter site; want, moreover, of increased accommodation on the east side for art treasures, 3222-3226—Conclusion that there would be no difficulty in removing the chemical and certain other departments from the College of Science, on the east side, and placing them on the west side, 3227-3229.

S.

Schools of Art. Advantage of objects being exhibited in schools where technical processes are taught; difficulties in showing the processes or methods of manufacture in the case of pottery, *Sparkes* 1444-1465—Importance of museums in connection with schools where technical work is part of the curriculum, *ib.* 1448-1451—Approval of a system whereby many small country school might be worked in connection with large local museums as centres, *ib.* 1452-1454.

Indirect relations of witness with provincial schools; he has nothing to do with the distribution of objects but has the recommendation of new masters and of temporary masters when application is made, *Sparkes* 1466-1473. 1483, 1484.

See also Ireland. Loans, &c.

SCIENCE MUSEUM, &c.:

Witness (who is Director of the Science Museum at South Kensington), submits a statement showing in detail the history and progress of the museum and the recommendations of several Committees and Royal Commissions for its development. *Festing* 736-742—Description of the location of the different science collections at the present time, the available space being very inadequate; urgent want of a minimum exhibition space of about 90,000 square feet, *ib.* 741-749—Sufficient room for the accommodation of students and of science classes; facilities given, *ib.* 756. 757. 768-770. 775-785.

Gradual expansion of the Science Museum, though many of the models and records are somewhat antiquated; usefulness of these for purposes of illustration. *Festing* 771-773. 816-842.

Explanations with further reference to the facilities given to classes from schools in connection with the Science and Art Department; question for consideration as to the circulation of objects or specimens to schools not in connection with the Department. *Festing* 776-798—Reference to the food collection, the agricultural collection, and some others as having ceased to expand, *ib.* 799-802.

Conclusion (as Dean of the College of Science), that the work of the college could not possibly be carried on without the collections in the museum, *ib.* 934—Expediency of an extension of the museum collections in several directions, if adequate space can be found, *ib.* 934*-936.

Report, 1898—*continued.*

SCIENCE MUSEUM, &c.—continued.

Explanations respecting the much closer connection between the College of Science and the Science Museum than between the former and the South Kensington Department, *Sir N. Lockyer* 1169–1181.

Special importance attached on national grounds to a large extension of science instruction in this country and to separate and sufficient accommodation for the increasingly numerous candidates in science and medicine; want also of a proper place for the examination of students, *Sir H. Roscoe*, 3150–3158, 3188—Suggestions for making the science apparatus more useful to the contrary at large; difficulty however as to their circulation, *ib.* 3189, 3233–3235.

Unanimous recommendation of the Committee in favour of the concentration of science on the west side of the Exhibition-road, *First Rep.* iii.

More accurate definition of responsibility in the case of the Science Museum than of the Art Museum, there being no conflict between officials in the former case, *Second Rep.* xxvi.

Improved administration if there were a clerk of the works under the director of the museum, *Second Rep.* xxvi, xxvii. xxx.

Review of the several classes of objects in the collection; difficulty as to elimination, *Second Rep.* xxvii.

See also *Buildings.* *Jermyn-street Museum.* *Lectures.* *Libraries.*
Loans, &c. *Purchases.*

Skinner, A. B., B.A., F.S.A. (Digest of his Evidence.)—Witness is Assistant Director of the Art Museum at South Kensington; he has nothing to do with the Science Museum, 1485, 1486.

Entire approval of the system at the British Museum of not removing officials from one department to another, 1488, 1489—Single instance since 1879 of witness having been asked to make a probationary report as to the fitness of a newly-appointed officer, 1490–1500—Explanation that it is only as regards second-class clerks that an annual report is made to the Civil Service Commission, 1501–1506.

Summary of witness' functions and of the departmental arrangement of the work and of the staff under him, there being five distinct divisions, Mr. Purdon Clarke being in supreme control, 1506–1585, 1618–1625, 1659–1670—Explanation of the process in obtaining cases for the art museum, the designs being made by Mr. Clarke and witness and the cases being ordered through General Festing; occasional difficulty on the score of cost, 1514–1533, 1595, 1596.

Particulars respecting the staff and duties of technical assistants, art repairers, and labellers, 1534–1561—Explanation and strong approval of the system of separation of duties under several divisional officers, 1562–1571—Practise as to purchases, recommendations being made by witness and the departmental officers under him, 1572–1577.

Consideration of the facilities available and the steps taken as regards the arrangement of the objects in the museum; suggestions as to the size and number of rooms required, not only for exhibition purposes but for the convenience of the public, 1578–1591, 1597, 1598—Opinion that the rooms should have both top-lights and side-lights, 1592–1594—Approval of an amalgamation between the eastern art and the western art, instead of their being two separate galleries, 1599–1602—Defect of the catalogues as regards the objects in witness' department, 1603–1606.

Opinion that whilst the larger proportion of objects in the department should be circulated those should be exempted which are unique and of great value, 1607–1609—Suggestions as regards the collection of casts and their arrangement, 1610–1617.

Further explanation as to the functions exercised by witness and Mr. Clarke, respectively, and by the divisional heads, 1618–1625, 1659–1670—Facility with which witness can obtain books from the library, 1626–1629—Dissatisfaction of witness with the labelling, as being antiquated, whilst the prices marked on the labels are very misleading, 1630–1646.

Advantage if there were maps showing the geographical distribution of different forms of art, 1647–1649—Approval of fuller information on the labels, so that catalogues would be less necessary, 1650–1652—Concurrence in the view that pictures are hardly in place in an industrial museum, though they are much in demand for circulation, 1653–1658, 1671–1677.

[Second Examination.] Approval of the museum directors deciding upon the objects to be circulated, and of the more valuable objects being sent to important places like Birmingham and Nottingham, but not to other places indiscriminately, 1676–1686, 1698—Degree of advantage in showing by means of labels that special objects have been exhibited in important centres, 1687–1697—Practice in circulating copies or reproductions, a description being given of the originals, 1699–1703.

Skinner, A. B., B.A., F.S.A. (Digest of his Evidence)—continued.

Increasing desire on the part of local museums for the loan of objects of educational value; steps taken at South Kensington to comply with local demands, and to circulate exhibits most suitable for the industrial wants of each locality, attractive objects being also sent, 1704–1712. 1773–1786—Instances of applications from temporary industrial exhibitions; advantage in complying therewith, 1713–1715.

Decided advantage if lecturers were sent to local museums with the objects circulated; prospect of arrangements to this end being soon carried out in witness' department, some addition to the staff being necessary, 1716–1746—Illustration in the case of Bethnal Green Museum of the importance of lectures in connection with local industries, 1723–1730. 1736.

Approval of master labels (in addition to the labels attached to objects) being attached to the museum cases and also of similar labels at the entrances to the galleries, 1747–1757—Explanation of the facilities for the purchase of catalogues by the public and of the steps taken by witness and other officials for the supply of cheap descriptive catalogues, 1758–1769—Instance, in the case of Leicester, of the expediency of not limiting the loan collection to the main industry of the place, 1776–1781. 1819–1822.

Advantage of rooms being constructed and fitted up as reproductions of different periods and styles; encouragement thereby to home manufacture, 1787–1802—Admission that some cartoons or mosaics in one of the larger galleries have long remained in an unfinished state, 1803–1811—Statement with further reference to the subject of probationary reports, witness explaining that in a certain case he would have reported on an officer not of the second-class if he had been asked to do so, 1812–1818.

Adoption of many of the suggestions made in the Paper put in by Mr Purdon Clarke in his evidence last Session respecting circulation, 1823–1825—Information as to the enlargement in the variety of collections sent to schools of art, since Sir John Donnelly's Paper of October 1896; numerous processes sent out, besides a large number of books, lantern slides, &c., 1826–1849.

Obstacles at present to sending objects of art of an educational character to such institutions as university colleges, 1841–1847—Loan of collections to some schools of art on condition that the public shall be freely admitted to see them, 1847. 1848. 1853–1855—Facility as to pupils or students at the schools being allowed to handle casts and other objects, whilst some objects in cases are not allowed to be handled, 1849–1861.

South Kensington Museum (Original Establishment). Summary by the Committee of the circumstances in connection with the promotion and establishment of the South Kensington Museum and of the branch at Bethnal Green. Second Report iii, iv. xxv.

Sparkes, J. C. L. (Digest of his Evidence)—Witness is Principal of the Royal College of Art at South Kensington, 1411.

Mission of the college with reference to industrial art, as distinct from fine art, two-fold purposes had in view in obtaining works of art from the museum, there being two different classes of students, 1413–1415—Explanation of the process necessary in order to obtain the required objects from the museum for study in the art school; important modifications of the old process in 1891 and 1894, all objects in circulation being now received very promptly after requisition has been made for them, 1416–1425.

Importance attached to the circulation of objects intrinsically valuable, though as regards the art school at South Kensington, this is not essential, as the students are close to the museum, 1425*–1435—Consideration of the practice as to the custody and handling of objects when circulated to provincial schools, opinion that the art master of each school should have the same facilities as the director of the museum as to the handling of the objects, 1436–1449.

Advantage of objects being exhibited in schools where technical processes are taught, difficulties in showing the processes or methods of manufacture in the case of pottery, 1444–1465—Importance of museums in connection with schools where technical work is part of the curriculum, 1448–1451—Approval of a system whereby many small country schools might be worked in connection with large local museums as centres 1452–1454.

Indirect relations of witness with provincial schools; he has nothing to do with the distribution of objects, but has the recommendation of new masters and of temporary masters when application is made, 1466–1473. 1483. 1484—Discretion necessary as to the circulation and handling of objects; those which are priceless should not be sent, 1477–1479—Conclusion that the removal of the mere Science and Art Department from South Kensington would not injure the work of the museum, 1480–1482.

Spring-Rice, G. E., c.b. (Digest of his Evidence)—Explanatory statement on the part of the Treasury as to the functions of that Department, and of the Comptroller and Auditor.

Report, 1898—*continued.*

Spring-Rice, G. E., C.B. (Digest of his Evidence)—continued.

Auditor General, respecting the form of the Accounts and of the Votes of the Science and Art Department, with special reference to the monies voted for Bethnal Green Museum, and the check exercised by the Treasury in the matter, 2256 *et seq.*

Question considered as to the Treasury keeping a check upon the separate expenditure under each of the headings in Sub-Head H. as regards Bethnal Green Museum; degree of complication involved, witness approving of some discretion in the Treasury as to transfers from one sub-division to another, 2265 *et seq.*

STAFF (SOUTH KENSINGTON):

1. *Official Explanations on several points.*
2. *Conclusions and Recommendations of the Committee.*

1. *Official Explanations on several points:*

Quotation of certain provisions of the Superannuation Act, and of the Order in Council of June 1870, as regards the regulations with respect to appointments in the museums; final settlement of this matter by the Treasury on 31st December 1897, reference having first been made to the Civil Service Commissioners, *Sir J. Donnelly* 10-17.

Large increase since 1891 in the staff of clerical assistants, due mainly to the gradual discontinuance of Civil Service writers, *Sir J. Donnelly* 218-225—Paper to be furnished by witness setting forth details of the staff, and showing his views as to what an ideal staff should be, *ib.* 307-310.

Summary of the several grades of officials and of the number of officers in each grade, the responsibility being clearly defined, *Sir J. Donnelly* 311-314—General rule that any applications or recommendations from officials as regards retirement, &c., must go through witness to the Lord President or Vice-President, *ib.* 388-394.

Suggestions for the enlargement of the staff at South Kensington in connection with the Circulation and Loan Department, which is much undermanned; witness, however, has no complaint whatever to make on the part of his own museum (Birmingham), *Wallis* 1259-1270, 1319, 1320.

Single instance since 1879 of witness having been asked to make a probationary report as to the fitness of a newly-appointed officer, *Skinner* 1490-1500—Explanation that it is only as regards second-class clerks that an annual report is made to the Civil Service Commission, *ib.* 1501-1506.

Summary of witness' functions and of the departmental arrangement of the work and of the staff under him, there being five distinct divisions, Mr. Purdon Clarke being in supreme control, *Skinner* 1506-1585, 1618-1625, 1659-1670—Statement with further reference to the subject of probationary reports, witness explaining that in a certain case he would have reported on an officer not of the second class if he had been asked to do so, *ib.* 1812-1818.

As Civil Service Commissioner witness explains that since an Order in Council in 1871 probationary reports have not been received by the Commission respecting clerks appointed after examination to any public department; report received only in the case of clerks non-accepted during probation, *Courthope* 2219-2225, 2231-2248, 2253-2258—It is not known to the candidates who the examiners are, *ib.* 2227-2230, 2249-2252.

Statement showing the mode of filling the various situations in the museums, &c., under the Science and Art Department, *App.* 198-200.

Paper handed in by Sir John Donnelly, 25th March 1898, showing the existing museum staff in the several divisions and the proposed staff, *App.* 213.

Table showing the results of an open competitive examination held in August 1893 for two situations as assistant keeper in the art branch of the South Kensington Museum, *App.* 214.

Statement by Sir J. Donnelly enumerating the junior assistants brought in under Class VII. of the Order in Council of 1870, *App.* 231.

2. *Conclusions and Recommendations of the Committee:*

Review by the Committee of the arrangements for the administration of the South Kensington Museum, together with a summary of the staff employed, *Second Rep.* vii-ix—Several additions to the staff as recently sanctioned by the Treasury, *ib.* viii—Explanations (from the evidence) as to the modes of appointment of the superior officers and of the assistants and others, *ib.* ix.

Review by the Committee of the work and functions of the Director for Art; suggestions on the subject, *Second Rep.* xiii, xx, xxi.

STAFF (SOUTH KENSINGTON)—*continued.*2. *Conclusions and Recommendations of the Committee*—*continued.*

Importance of the staff, when experienced in the work, not being transferred from one department to another, *Second Rep.* xxvi—Avoidance of the evil of interchange of officials in the case of the Science Museum, *ib.*

Expediency of assigning a certain section of work to each official on entrance, so that he may become an expert; disadvantage hitherto from a lack of experts, *Second Rep.* xxviii—Frequency of the process of interchange, the Committee being strongly of opinion that this is detrimental to the public service, *ib.*

Review of the practice as to the examination and admission of new officials; disadvantages of the present system, *Second Rep.* xxviii, xxix—Recommendation that no examination should be held unless there be a minimum number of candidates, as is the practice at the British Museum, *ib.* xxix—Further recommendation that no member or paid official of the Science and Art Department should be employed as examiner, *ib.*

Recommendation that probationary reports about officials should be invariably made, facilities of appeal being given to the person reported upon, *Second Rep.* xxix.

Comments upon the relationship between members of the staff, some 20 per cent being inter-related, *Second Rep.* xxix.

Conclusions of the Committee in favour of the removal of the barracks and of discontinuing the employment of sappers, *Second Rep.* xxx.

Suggested appointment of a clerk of the works under Colonel Festing, *Second Rep.* xxvi, xxx.

Recommendation that the secretary of the department should have an office at Whitehall, *Second Rep.* xxxvi.

Recommendation that the higher staff should be increased, *Second Rep.* xxxvii.

Recommendation as to the attainments to be possessed by the Director of the Art Museum and the Director of the Science Museum, respectively, *Second Rep.* xxxvi.

See also *Administration.* *Armstrong, Mr., C.B.* *Johnstone, Professor (Dublin Museum).* *Lehfeldt, M. A.* *Libraries.* *Purchases.* *Resident Officers.* *Weale, H. J. W.*

Stepney, The Right Rev. The Lord Bishop of. (Digest of his Evidence)—Intimate acquaintance of witness with the educational wants of the East End of London, 2706-2709.

Conclusion as regards the Bethnal Green Museum that it is of very little use at present and urgently requires being brought in touch with the people and with the needs of the locality; inadequate return for the expenditure incurred, 2711, 2715, 2716, 2729-2733, 2772, 2773, 2781, 2832, 2833—Importance of the museum comprising a department of science and art and a library, as intended under the original scheme of the museum, 2710-2715, 2721 *et seq.*; 2848-2850.

Suggestion that the museum might be made more popular in many ways, as by frequent lectures on special subjects and exhibits, and by arrangements for the instructions of groups of workmen at appointed times; action of witness in this direction, 2716-2720, 2734-2743, 2761-2764, 2772, 2773, 2848-2852—Necessity of changing the present exhibits, 2718, 2810—Claim upon the Exchequer for an increase of funds for popular lectures, 2718-2720.

Decided approval of the free library being placed in juxtaposition to the museum; inconvenience of its present site, 2721-2728, 2765-2770, 2800-2803, 2824, 2864, 2865—Explanation as to witness having opposed the adoption of the Free Libraries Act in Bethnal Green, 2723-2727, 2818-2826—Importance of freely advertising the exhibitions and the proposed special lectures in connection therewith, 2734-2743—Suggestions on the subject of picture exhibitions being held in the museum, 2742-2748, 2797-2799, 2838-2841.

Advantage if there were a local advisory committee for putting forward the wants of the district and for making suggestions on the subject, 2745-2754, 2816, 2817, 2829—Difficulties in the way of Toynbee Hall or Oxford House being utilised in connection with the educational working of the museum, 2755-2760, 2793-2798, 2834—Large attendance of the people of the East End at the museum if lectures on special subjects were given by well known experts, 2761-2764.

Examination upon the question whether the district should not contribute in money towards the greater usefulness of the museum, instead of expecting a larger Government grant; reference hereon to the very high rates in the district and to its exceptionally poor character, 2774-2790, 2804-2809, 2811-2815, 2853-2856—Unfairness in expecting Government still to provide the funds if the museum were placed under local

Report, 1898—*continued.*

Stepney, The Right Rev. The Lord Bishop of. (Digest of his Evidence)—*continued.*

local administration, 2816, 2817, 2827–2830—Explanation as to the locality looking to Government to initiate changes in the exhibits and to provide popular lectures, instead of taking any initiative in the matter themselves, 2834–2847.

Stores and Store Rooms. Summary of amounts of expenditure of the Stores Department under different heads; objection to any alteration in the form of the estimate, *Sir J. Donnelly* 198–208.

Stratigraphy. Question considered as to the degree of value to be attached to a special collection illustrating British stratigraphy, *Judd* 949–952.

Students and Teachers. Instances of permission being given to students or teachers to take objects out of cases in the Science Museum, *Festing* 866, 867—Information as to the working hours of students; great want of some accommodation for them, *Judd* 987–993—Different catalogues available for teachers throughout the country, every attention and facility being given to those teachers who visit the museum for purposes of study, *ib.* 1007–1011.

Respects in which a museum is in itself a much better education for a student than attendance at lectures, *Sir N. Lockyer* 1049, 1050—Facility as to pupils or students at the schools being allowed to handle casts and other objects, whilst some objects in cases are not allowed to be handled, *Skinner* 1849–1861.

See also *Loans, &c.*, 2.

Sunday Opening. Summary of the number of Sunday visitors to the different museums in 1896 and 1897, *Sir J. Donnelly* 18–26; *Second Rep.* iv–vi.

Statement of the additional cost hitherto incurred by the Sunday opening of the South Kensington, the Bethnal Green, and Jermyn-street Museums; also, number of visitors monthly, *App.* 196, 197.

Return of visitors to the South Kensington Museum on the several Sundays from 20th February to 13th March 1898, inclusive, *App.* 211.

Superannuation and Retirement. See *Staff*.

T.

Thefts. Explanation in reply to statement that many years ago a watch was stolen and one of the sappers was charged with the theft, *Sir J. Donnelly* 463–467.

See also *Loans, &c.*

Toynbee Hall. Difficulties in the way of Toynbee Hall or Oxford House being utilised in connection with the educational working of the Bethnal Green Museum, *Bishop of Stepney* 2755–2760, 2793–2798, 2834.

Treasury. See *Accounts and Estimates.* *Expenditure.*

V.

Vans. Increased expenditure for vans, this having been sanctioned by the Treasury, *Sir J. Donnelly* 209–215—Further information as to the large expense incurred for van service and carriage of materials, &c., as in connection with Bethnal Green Museum, *ib.* 467.

Visitors. Explanation in connection with statement showing the number of Sunday visitors to South Kensington, Bethnal Green, and Jermyn-street Museums since April 1896, *Sir J. Donnelly* 18–26; *App.* 211.

Summary by the Committee of the number of visitors to the South Kensington and other museums in 1896 and 1897, distinguishing the number on Sundays, *Second Rep.* iv–vi.

See also *Free Admission.*

Visitors, Board of. Grounds for the conclusion of the Committee that in order to rehabilitate the prestige of South Kensington a Board of Visitors should be appointed; suggestions as to the constitution and functions of the Board, *Second Rep.* xxxiv.

W.

Wales. Suggestions on the subject of the operation and the contents of the local museums as auxiliaries to the several Welsh colleges; different classes of objects desirable in each collection, *Roberts* 2870 *et seq.*—Consideration of the question of a central museum for Wales, and of the difficulty as to site; recommendations in this connection for the establishment and working of a museum in each collegiate centre, *ib.* 2880–2893. 2917, 2918.

Excellent work being done by the secondary and county schools and by the elementary schools; advantage as regards these if museum objects could be circulated from Aberystwith and lectured upon at the schools, *Roberts* 2887–2893.

Valuable results of the circulation of objects from local museums, *Dobbie* 2950–2952—Suggested operation of one large museum in Wales from three centres, *ib.* 2953–2958—Beneficial operation of collections illustrative of local antiquities, and of the growth of local manners and customs, *ib.* 2958.

Conclusion of the Committee that a good case has been made out for extending the advantages of science and art collections in the principality, *Second Rep.* xxxiii.

Question to be solved as to the town in which a museum should be placed; alternative proposals on this point, *Second Rep.* xxxiii.

Expediency of the Circulation Department operating in Wales, failing the establishment of a museum, *Second Rep.* xxxiii.

See also Aberystwith College. Bangor College and Museum.

Wallis, Whitworth, F.S.A. (Digest of his Evidence.)—Witness has been Director of the Museum and Art Gallery at Birmingham since 1885; previous official experience at South Kensington and Bethnal Green, 1222–1226—He has had considerable training and experience in connection with art, 1227, 1228.

Exceedingly valuable character of the collections in the Birmingham Museum; reference especially to the large and important collections of industrial and decorative works of art, having a distinct influence on local industries, 1229—Assistance received at the museum from South Kensington, chiefly in the form of a loan collection comprising four cases, the objects being mostly selected by witness who visits South Kensington for the purpose, 1229–1237—Inconvenience at times through the cases being locked, the objects not being accessible to students or to lecturers; suggested relaxation of existing restrictions on this point, 1234–1236. 1242, 1243. 1382–1385.

Practice as to lectures by witness outside the museum, in connection with the loan collection; non-removal of any of the loan objects on these occasions, 1238–1243. 1294–1298. 1400—Great advantage if the large number of lantern slides at South Kensington were out on circulation, 1244–1246—Suggestions on the subject of a small descriptive catalogue accompanying each important loan collection, 1247–1249. 1369, 1370.

Entire concurrence in Mr. Purdon Clarke's proposals for the development of the Circulation Department at South Kensington, 1250, 1251—Room for improvement as regards the character of the collections lent to local museums; primary object that each collection should have a distinct bearing on the industries of the locality, 1252–1272. 1386–1391—Suggestions for the enlargement of the staff at South Kensington in connection with the Circulation and Loan Department, which is much undermanned; witness however has no complaint whatever to make on the part of his own museum, 1259–1270. 1319, 1320.

Statement as to the loan collections at Birmingham and other large towns, having reference mainly to general art, the special collections of the local museums having a more distinct reference to the industries of the place, 1271–1279—Suggestions and explanations on the subject of the objects in loan cases being made accessible to the officials of the museums in whose custody they are; also, to masters of art schools, 1280–1293. 1331, 1332. 1339–1342. 1382–1385.

Explanation of the procedure as to purchases for the Birmingham Museum; very large powers vested in witness by the Art Purchase Committee, he having made important purchases at home and abroad without any complaint on the part of the committee of management, 1299–1318. 1371–1373—Opinion that the director at South Kensington should have very full powers as to purchases, 1397, 1398.

Numerous lectures by witness away from the museum; large attendances at some places, 1321–1324—Sale of a very large number of penny catalogues, these being compiled in the museum, and the advertisements in them being under regulation, 1325–1330—Very close collection between the museum and the local art schools; loan of objects to the latter, whilst witness has lectured for them, 1333–1342. 1355–1362. 1374–1381.

Very

Report, 1898—*continued.*

Wallis, Whitworth, F.S.A. (Digest of his Evidence)—continued.

Very imperfect representation of the art museums of this country upon the Museums' Association, 1343–1347—Greater benefit derived by the more important local museums than by the smaller ones from the central Circulation Department, 1348–1351—Beneficial operation of the Birmingham Museum as regards the local board schools and secondary schools, 1352–1354.

Statement on the subject of the custody of objects lent to the museum and the question of insurance, 1363–1368—Expediency of some restriction as regards the number of people attending lectures in the museums, 1392–1399—Suggestions on the subject of special lecturers from South Kensington accompanying loan collections 1401–1408—Art Library close to the Birmingham Museum but not in any way attached to it, 1409, 1410.

Water Colours, &c. (South Kensington). Particulars as to the expenditure in different years upon the historical collection of water colours and upon copies of works of art in water colours; discrepancy between the expenditure in the calendar year and in the financial year, *Sir J. Donnelly* 467–472.

Explanations in reply to certain queries and objections raised as regards the annual report of the department not showing clearly the separate expenditure on water colours, paintings in oil, and other objects; reference to the figures in question as having nothing to do with the Appropriation Account, *Sir J. Donnelly* 696–709.

Weale, H. J. W. Explanation respecting the retirement of Mr. Weale, and the circumstances under which his employment was continued not only beyond the age of sixty-five, but beyond the time sanctioned by the Treasury; reference to official correspondence on the subject, *Sir J. Donnelly* 44–47, 93–108—Production of the correspondence, &c. relating to the retirement of Mr. Weale; gratuity of 375*l.* 8*s.* 5*d.* eventually awarded to Mr. Weale by the Treasury, *ib.* 128–131.

Further evidence in considerable detail respecting the retirement of Mr. Weale, and the correspondence with the Treasury on the subject; witness declines to produce to the Committee the minutes and correspondence within the department relative to this case, *Sir J. Donnelly* 315–376, 382–385.

Examination in further detail respecting the correspondence between the Treasury and the department in Mr. Weale's case and the circumstances under which his retirement was postponed, and payment was made to him by witness during his continued employment; admitted irregularity of such payment, *Sir J. Donnelly* 579–591, 596–619, 631–649.

Application to the Treasury, dated 19th February 1897, requesting that the services of Mr. Weale be retained until after the Report of the Select Committee which it is proposed to appoint, *App.* 212.

Treasury letter of 2nd March 1897, sanctioning a conditional extension of Mr. Weale's services from 8th March 1897, *App.* 195.

Treasury communication, dated 3rd August 1897, to the effect that there is no reason for any further retention of Mr. Weale's services, *App.* 195.

Particulars as required in reference to the case of Mr. Weale as regards the question of his superannuation, *App.* 213, 214—Certificate by Sir John Gorst that Mr. Weale had performed his duties with diligence and fidelity, *ib.* 214.

Correspondence between the Science and Art Department and the Treasury in October, November, and December, 1897, respecting the extension of Mr. Weale's services, and the grant of a gratuity to him, *App.* 217, 218—Grant of a gratuity of 375*l.* 8*s.* 5*d.*, *ib.* 218.

Testimony borne by the Committee to the excellence of the system of cataloguing introduced by Mr. Weale, *Second Rep.* xxiv–xxvi.

Opinion of the Committee that the termination of the engagement of Mr. Weale immediately after the rising of the House in 1897, and subsequent to his giving evidence in which errors and abuses of administration were freely exposed, very much resembles a breach of privilege and an infringement of the immunity usually enjoyed by witnesses before Committees of the House of Commons, *Second Rep.* xxxvi.

Works Department (South Kensington). Grounds for the conclusion of the Committee that the Works Department at South Kensington is organised upon a faulty basis; suggestions for an amended system, *Second Rep.* xxx.

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